International Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

The World's Daily Newspaper ** Paris, Wednesday, March 20, 1996 No. 35,164

Europe's TV Horizon: Politics, Money and Culture Collide

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Europe stands poised on the threshold of a technological leap that will spawn hundreds of new pay television channels, and with them the start of a single media market that could push the Continent toward unification much sooner than its single currency project will.

But the politics of Europe's television revolution — in corporate and in purely political terms — will be as rough and tumble as the game played by governments themselves. And the reason is that the carving up of Europe's lucrative multibillion-dollar TV market has only just begun, after a deal earlier this month that will bring together Bertelsmann of Germany, Canal Plus of France and Rupert Murdoch's British-based BSkyB satellite television business.

First of two articles

"The fact is that because of its economic, political and cultural importance, television is an area that politicians will never really leave to the market," said Raymond Kuhn, an expert on European mass media at the University of London.

Already, ties are strong between politicians and leading European television moguls, as evinced by the friendship between Leo Kirch and Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Germany, or the political clout of Rupert Murdoch in Britain, whose media empire has gradually shifted support from the Conservative Party of former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher toward the Labor Party leader, Tony Blair.

In France, Canal Plus grew up and flourished as a pay-TV monopoly in the 1980s under the leadership of André Rousselet, a former top aide to President François Mitterrand. And in Italy, the owner of 50 percent of the national television market — Silvio Berlusconi — needs no introduction to the world of politics: he is a former prime minister and leader of a political party who frequently denies accusations by his critics that he is a walking conflict of interest or that he entered politics to protect his own media interests.

Mr. Kuhn stressed Tuesday that even though he expected plenty of political disagreements between now and the year 2000, including resistance to American programming, the trend toward more satellite and pay-TV should bring Europeans closer together.

"The impact of an integrated European media market will have as much influence on people's behavior as a single currency," he said, "because after sleeping and working, television is the other activity people spend most of their time on."

In New York, James Harmon, a me-

See TV, Page 10

Kohl Talks Tough on a New Dose Of Taxation

Chancellor Also Says Six-Week Vacations 'Cannot Continue'

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — In startlingly blunt language ahead of regional state elections, Chancellor Helmut Kohl dished out to his countrymen Tuesday a double serving of bitter economic news, warning of "massive" spending cuts ahead, while declining to rule out a looming increase in taxes next year.

Desperate to bring fast-rising public deficits under control and restore his nation's international competitiveness, Mr. Kohl also lashed out at the average German retirement age, late entry into the workforce and abundant vacations and holidays.

Of the impending austerity measures, he warned: "We will be forced to introduce massive savings in 1997. We must do all we can to limit the rise of the deficit."

With only five days to go before three closely monitored state elections in Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palat

Exhorting the British, Kohl calls for EU unity. Page 5.

inate and Schleswig-Holstein, Mr. Kohl was forced to reply to Bonn's opposition Social Democrats. In the last week, the Social Democrats have reveled in denouncements of the government over rising deficits, record unemployment and a widely expected tax increase.

On Tuesday, Oskar Lafontaine, the party chairman of the Social Democrats, dusted off a scathing reunification political epithet and accused the government of another "tax lie."

Mr. Lafontaine demanded that Finance Minister Theo Waigel disclose his blueprint for any new tax increases by Friday, in time for voters to react at the polls.

With elections looming, the government has not let itself be pinned down on what Hans Meltzer, senior economist in Frankfurt at Deutsche Bank Research GmbH, calls the "unpleasant truths" about government finances.

Mr. Kohl gave few details of the austerity plans. His government and coalition partners remain locked in an unusually difficult debate over which programs must be cut, he explained.

To promote his economic action plan aimed at creating jobs and restoring competitiveness, the chancellor scolded German workers, saying that six weeks vacation a year was too much by international standards. "This cannot continue," he said.

On taxes, Mr. Kohl would only say

See GERMANY, Page 10

China's New Nationalism: Mix of Mao and Confucius

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — As 150,000 troops, lashed by cold rains, massed last month on China's southern coast to prepare for an exercise in missile diplomacy, people across the rest of the nation celebrated the Chinese New Year with family, food, drink and the most popular holiday pastime: tuning in to the annual Spring Festival variety show on television.

This year, the show featured a rendition of the hit song "Big China." Dressed in an off-white, two-piece suit that combined the simplicity of the uniform made popular by Mao Zedong, with the collar worn by Confucian scholars in imperial times, the singer Gao Feng crooned: "We all have a family whose name is China. . . ."

ASIA'S DRAGON

Last of three articles

This is what Chinese nationalism has become in the 1990s: A mix of militarism, Maoism, Confucianism; one part modern, one part traditional, one part belligerent and one part lounge act.

And yet Chinese nationalism is emerging as a potent force in a country that is striving to shake off its image as the sick man of Asia and regain ancient glory. Driven by recent economic achievements, Chinese nationalists also harbor a sense of wounded national pride left over from the 19th century, a love-hate relationship with Western culture and an uncomfortable feeling that China's 5,000 years of history are as much a burden as they are a foundation for the future.

That nationalist ferment has been greeted with mixed emotions in Asia and the rest of the world.

Asians, who see a stable, healthy China as the key to their regional prosperity, now worry that resurgent Chinese nationalism will lead to a modern form of the Qing Dynasty tribute system of centuries ago, with China's neighbors providing investment, technology, cheap credit and diplomatic compliance in place of the 18th-century ritual prostrations and gifts.

The political disappearance of the paramount Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, 91, has added to regional concerns. Mr. Deng, a revolutionary war veteran, did not need to prove his nationalist credentials. He smoothed out foreign-policy problems and kept his focus on the economy. Today's weaker Chinese leaders, including Jiang Zemin, the president and Communist Party leader, and Prime Minister Li Peng, must prove their strength through tough talk and military exercises and perhaps bend more toward nationalist hard-liners.

The crisis over Taiwan encapsulates the region's fears about Chinese nationalism, even though China claims it is

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Simon Kwong/Reuters

A farmer carrying cabbages Tuesday past a presidential campaign banner on Taiwan's Matsu Island. China began new military exercises, but voiced hope that talks next month with Washington could ease tensions. Page 4.

A Reunited Sarajevo, A Partitioned Bosnia

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — When Bosnian policemen filed into the last Serbian neighborhood to be handed over to the Muslim-led government on Tuesday morning, it signaled the final act in the partition of Bosnia into three ethnic enclaves, a partition that could, if not reversed, usher in a new period of instability in the Balkans.

"Here people live close together, and have been living close together for generations," said Carl Bildt, the High Representative in Bosnia, in an interview on Tuesday. "A policy of partition, although it can produce stability in the short-term and even medium-term perspective, is unlikely to do so in the long term.

"If you have a small Bosnian state, squeezed between Croatia and Serbia, with their respective parts of Bosnian territory, then no matter what international support is given, it will be very difficult for this statelet to survive."

United Nations officials and diplomats voiced the forlorn hope Tuesday that some of the 60,000 Serbs might trickle back to the five suburbs and neigborhoods handed over to the Bosnian government as part of the peace plan reached in Dayton, Ohio.

And Mr. Bildt said his office, which is in charge of reconstruction and international policing, would push the Muslim-Croat federation to guarantee the property and security of the Bosnian Serbs who express an interest in going home.

But Mr. Bildt acknowledged that if he failed in Sarajevo, there would be little hope left for the rest of Bosnia.

"The Sarajevo area has been the area where you had Serbs, Bosnians and Croats living closely together" Mr. Bildt said. "The entire idea was to here resurrect a multiethnic Bosnia. But what we have been seeing during the last few weeks has clearly been a setback, to put it mildly."

The animosity, the arson and the looting of the last few weeks, coupled with the fierce fighting that colored this city during the war, makes it unlikely that large numbers of Bosnian Serbs will return to live under Muslim rule.

The Bosnian Serb leadership, which backed the decision to abandon the suburbs, says it is concentrating on finding new housing for the tens of thousands of people who were displaced. And it has warned ominously that they are now under no obligation to return the homes of Muslims and Croats driven from areas under their control.

"The partition of Bosnia is the only

See SARAJEVO, Page 10

Key War Cry in Fight for White House: The Budget!

By Alison Mitchell
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's $1.64 trillion budget for 1997, unveiled Tuesday, is the opening initiative in a new phase of the presidential race in which Pennsylvania Avenue supersedes the hustings.

An unprecedented contest between a president of one party and the sitting Senate majority leader of another is now under way, and advisers to both Mr. Clinton and the probable Republican nominee, Senator Bob Dole, say the campaign will be fought in the next few months in a legislative battle over a few issues.

Central among them are the balanced budget, with its ancillary issues of Medicare and Medicaid, and welfare and other health care proposals.

What that means is that a host of political calculations will be in play in both camps, making the bitterly partisan stalemate that has been gripping the federal government for months ever more complicated, like a three-dimensional game of chess.

Aware that the public is tired of gridlock and partisanship, both sides have alluded to the possibility of making headway on legislation during what the White House chief of staff, Leon E. Panetta, calls "a very unique window of opportunity" before both candidates move into full combat after the August nominating conventions.

Mr. Dole himself said: "If we can get a good balanced budget agreement, we ought to do it. We'll get credit, the president will get credit, but above all the American people will benefit."

But behind the scenes both camps are weighing considerations like these: If Mr. Clinton and Mr. Dole do share the credit on something like a balanced budget in seven years or a welfare overhaul, who gains more political advantage? Which candidate does it serve to have an issue like welfare removed from debate because both men agreed on a solution? If the two leaders get into a veto fight, who loses? Will it be the president the Republicans will portray as an obstructionist, or the majority leader whom the White House will try to tar as an extremist?

See BUDGET, Page 10

Ugly Skies: Unruly Passengers on Rise

By Peter Finn
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The United Airlines flight from Frankfurt to Washington was 40 minutes from landing when a passenger, Gerald Theriault, began to berate a flight attendant, Graham Spady, insisting that he had bumped him several times with the service cart.

"He was really agitated and said he was going to kick my butt," said Mr. Spady, 43. Mr. Spady didn't think he had bumped Mr. Theriault, but he immediately apologized.

That wasn't good enough. Mr. Theriault, 36, a U.S. citizen living in Germany, followed Mr. Spady to the galley, threw him against an emergency exit, then beat him on the head and face, according to federal prosecutors who handled the case in court.

Another flight attendant tried to intervene, but Mr. Theriault elbowed her away. Eventually, three passengers pulled Mr. Theriault off Mr. Spady, who has not worked since the November beating.

Flight attendants say Mr. Theriault's rage is part of a disturbing trend of unruly passengers.

Other recent incidents on U.S. airlines include an American businessman defecating on a service tray, British and Irish tourists having a food fight and a Saudi princess attacking a flight attendant who she said had not served her a drink quickly enough.

Many boorish passengers don't go to those extremes but nonetheless disrupt the crew's work by refusing to put out cigarettes, standing up during takeoff and arguing about service, flight attendants say.

"Ten years ago, the problem was people touching you and making, you know, bodily remarks," said Michelle Morris, a flight attendant for USAir. "Now people just blow their tops and go ballistic, and they start yelling and threatening. And it's over silly things, like checking bags or not getting a drink or double seat assignments or the fare, which we have nothing to do with."

Convinced that not enough is being done by the airlines, the FBI or the courts to punish passengers who interfere with flight crews, a coalition of the major flight attendants unions formed a task force on the issue in January.

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Newsstand Prices

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Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	14 Dh
Cameroon	1,600 CFA	Qatar	10.00 Riels
Egypt	E£ 5	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

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AGENDA

UN Demands Access to Iraqi Sites

UNITED NATIONS, New York (Reuters) — The Security Council demanded Tuesday that Iraq allow "immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access" for UN inspectors investigating suspected weapons sites. Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the United Nations commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, said inspectors had been delayed from 2 to 18 hours at five sites since March 8.

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Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down 14.09	Up 0.47%
5669.51	134.94

The Dollar

New York.	Tues. close	previous close
DM	1.4735	1.4769
Pound	1.5338	1.5324
Yen	106.175	106.105
FF	5.03 75	5.0475

Bordeaux Stuns Milan

Bordeaux overturned a two-goal deficit to knock AC Milan out of soccer's UEFA Cup with a 3-0 victory. In other matches Tuesday, Barcelona beat PSV, 3-2, in Eindhoven to reach the semifinals with 5 goals to 4 over two legs. Roma beat Slavia Prague, 3-1, after extra time but lost on aggregate, 3-3. Bayern Munich beat Nottingham Forest, 5-1, for a 7-2 aggregate victory.

Ariel Jerozolimski/Agence France-Presse

Shimon Peres being briefed on a jet. Israel is readying a plan to deport suspect militants. Page 7.

Foreign Adoptions / **Pervasive Corruption Investigated**

Paraguay Trying to Stop Sale of Babies

By Diana Jean Schemo
New York Times Service

ASUNCION, Paraguay — Gladys Gómez's shoes are torn, her fingernails ragged and her blouse threadbare. But the picture she keeps in her pocket, of the daughter who disappeared almost three years ago, is still crisp, wrapped in plastic like a personal shrine.

Miss Gómez, 23, said she left her daughter, Cintia Carolina, then 14 months old, in the care of a cousin while she went to visit her godmother nearby on the night of Aug. 28, 1993. When Miss Gómez returned a few hours later, her only child had disappeared. Relatives later told her that the cousin, who is being detained on charges of stealing the child, had sold Cintia for international adoption.

On the strength of a court order granting her an hour's access to court files last month, Miss Gómez found a girl she thinks is her daughter who had been adopted by an American couple in December 1994.

Vowing to bring her child back through the same court system that apparently sanctioned her adoption, she is working with a lawyer from a nonprofit organization.

On a park bench after glimpsing the records of the girl, she gazed at Cintia's picture. "She's going to feel bad," Miss Gómez said. "She's not going to know me anymore, but I want her back."

With the end of the 35-year dictatorship of General Alfredo Stroessner and the opening of Paraguay in 1989, the number of international adoptions here has skyrocketed.

In 1986, according to figures from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, there were no adoptions of Paraguayan children by U.S. couples. Last year, the U.S. Embassy in Asunción counted 410, making this small nation of 4 million the leading South American supplier of children for adoption to the United States.

Adopting couples pay thousands of dollars to American adoption agencies for what they presume will be above-board adoptions. But an investigation of Paraguayan adoption procedures, including interviews with prosecutors, birth mothers and outside experts as well as a review of several contested cases, suggests that many of the babies put up for foreign adoption are sold or stolen.

In many cases, experts say, a stranger, sometimes posing as an evangelist, will offer to pay a pregnant woman's medical expenses and then claim the infant as payment.

In other cases, mothers, or women posing as mothers, may sell children, usually for up to $400 in cash, or a lesser amount accompanied by radios, sweaters and other goods, said Rubén Riquelme, director of the Judicial Center for Investigations, which is attached to the prosecutor's office.

Experts say they do not know what share of Paraguayan adoptions are illicit, but the incidents are common enough that the government has tried to suspend all foreign adoptions and has begun an investigation of a judge whose signature was found on adoption files at a lawyer's house where a stolen baby was discovered during a police raid.

Perhaps most troubling, despite numerous official procedures to prevent children from being stolen, sold or given up under coercion, in practice the system appears to assure none of this.

Mr. Riquelme blamed an elaborate assembly line of corruption that subverts the legal checks: lawyers, nursery operators, doctors, psychologists, notaries and fake birth mothers, all operating under the semblance of legality, overseen by a judicial system left over from the Stroessner dictatorship.

John Mailer/JB Pictures for The New York Times

Elena Almada, in Asunción, Paraguay, with photo of her daughter, María Liz, who was taken from her at birth against her wishes and adopted by a U.S. couple.

In September, Paraguay suspended new international adoptions for a year to revise its regulations. But adoption lawyers filed so many applications just before the suspension began that adoptions continue unabated, according to figures contained in the files of the Judicial Center for Investigations.

The uncertainties prompted the U.S. Embassy here to begin interviewing biological mothers and, in case of doubt, suggesting a DNA test for genetic proof of parentage. The practice is common in embassies in countries where international adoptions have come under suspicion, including Guatemala, El Salvador, India, Ukraine and Georgia, in the former Soviet Union. But Mark Jacobs, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy here, said DNA tests are rarely requested, and none has resulted in rescinding adoptions.

Sometimes, lawyers claim that biological mothers cannot be found and the embassy has, in all cases, relented and allowed the adoptions to go through, Mr. Jacobs said.

"Basically what we're trying to do is put another check in the system," Mr. Jacobs said. "The bottom line for me is that the Paraguayans have called a suspension to put their house in order."

DNA tests, which Per Engebak, chief of the Americas Section of Unicef in New York, contends offer the only reliable proof of identity, are not mandatory in any Latin American country.

Adoption lawyers deny there is any need to steal babies, and say, rather, that they are offering a better life to children who would otherwise wither in streets or orphanages.

"I would be doing this even if I weren't paid for it, because I think it's right," said Andres Nissim Pessolani, an adoption lawyer. He said he sometimes pays the medical expenses of pregnant girls who are brought to his office, provided he trusts the person who accompanies them, but he denied he does so to receive the baby for adoption. "I also give anonymous donations to many charities in town," he said.

Mr. Riquelme, however, says he doubts the altruism of those who make their livings off international adoptions. "Lawyers and pro-adoption people will tell you, 'We are solving social problems; the majority are not good mothers. They're merchants, really, and we're Don Quixotes,'" he said. "But these Don Quixotes drive around in Mercedes-Benzes and talk on cellular telephones."

American couples who come here are not always eager or able to investigate the source of adopted babies. Many have sought children here after being turned down for domestic adoptions because of age limits on adoptive parents. Others said they were driven overseas by stories like that of Baby Jessica, whose American birth mother changed her mind and succeeded in reclaiming her daughter from adoptive parents.

"Here, you never have to worry that the mother will come after you to claim her baby back," said a woman who has become a friend to many adoptive parents at the Gran Hotel del Paraguay, where many of them stay. "Most of the mothers move around so much, and they're so poor they could never find you, anyway."

Since adoption lawyers hand over the babies as soon as the foreign parents arrive, new parents grow instantly attached to the children, and by the time the tedious legal formalities are completed they think of the child as their own. By then, it may be all but impossible to admit any doubts about the adoption.

Winnie's Plea Barred, Mandelas Are Divorced

She Doesn't Challenge Infidelity Charge

By Lynne Duke
Washington Post Service

JOHANNESBURG — After a day of testimony that ended with Winnie Mandela dismissing her lawyer and standing alone to plead for sympathy, a Supreme Court judge declared the 38-year marriage of President Nelson Mandela and his estranged wife officially dissolved Tuesday.

The divorce ends months of private wrangling and two days of public disclosures that cast Mr. Mandela, the 77-year-old grandfatherly symbol of national racial reconciliation, as unable or unwilling to consider a reconciliation with the wife he said had made him feel like the "loneliest man."

Though she clearly shaped her own defense, Winnie Mandela did not take the stand. Neither she nor her lawyers contested Mr. Mandela's assertions of her "brazen infidelity" following her husband's 1990 release from 27 years of political imprisonment.

But Mrs. Mandela, 61, mounted the defense of a woman who feels a debt is due her for the role she played in keeping the Mandela name alive and for her role in the struggle against apartheid, as South Africa's system of racial separation was called. Her lawyer, on cross-examination of Mr. Mandela, led the court through a detailed account of the many arrests, bannings, raids on her house and attempts on her life that Mrs. Mandela suffered during the years of apartheid because of her political activities and her famous name.

Her lawyers tried to portray Mr. Mandela as being influenced by a racially inspired smear campaign against his wife. But Mr. Mandela shot back, "I was never influenced by those who are my enemies."

The Mandelas, who have two daughters, separated in 1992 following the disclosure of her affair with a young ANC lawyer.

A hearing is scheduled Wednesday on a financial settlement. Mrs. Mandela has asked for half of her husband's assets, though the extent of his wealth remains in question.

As the hearing wound down Tuesday, with her lawyer failing in another request for a postponement of the case, Mrs. Mandela stood alone before Judge Frikkie Eloff and pleaded to be allowed time to hire new attorneys and present witnesses.

"My case cannot be closed, My Lord," Mrs. Mandela said, appearing humbled and without the fiery spirit that is her trademark.

"I seek the sympathy of this court," she said. "There is nothing I can do on my own."

After describing her removal of her defense counsel, Ismail Semenya, as a ploy to secure a delay, Judge Eloff said: "Mrs. Mandela, the case is in your hands now. You have the right to address me . . . to tell me why you conclude there should not be a decree of divorce."

"This is no ordinary case. There are other relevant issues," she responded.

"Is that all you wish to say?"

"Yes."

And so it ended, with Judge Eloff's decree coming a short time later.

On the streets around the Supreme Court building, news of the divorce jolted many onlookers.

Joyce Tshite, 33, began crying when told that the Mandela marriage was officially over.

"Oh, what a shame," she said. Mr. Mandela should have given his wife another chance, she contended. "I am touched by this. I am really touched."

"At least it's a relief that it's over," said another woman, Caro Nkabinde, 26. "For the old man, it's a relief."

What political ramifications the Mandela divorce may have are yet to be seen, and may be minimal, considering that the couple has been separated nearly four years.

Both Mandelas are powerful within the African National Congress, the governing party. Though Mrs. Mandela's popular stature is less than her former husband's, her supporters tend to be more radical than his.

For Mrs. Mandela, 60, the divorce is the latest in a long series of personal and political setbacks. She has been accused and investigated for misuse of funds, though without charges being brought. She has been charged and convicted on a kidnapping charge stemming from the abduction of a 14-year-old boy who was later found beaten to death.

Mexico Rejects U.S. Proposal On Maneuvers

By Mary Beth Sheridan
Los Angeles Times Service

MEXICO CITY — A U.S. proposal to hold joint military exercises with Mexico has caused an uproar south of the border, with the Mexican government declaring firmly that it would not permit such a step.

"Bilateral cooperation in no way includes joint exercises between the armed forces of the two nations," a Foreign Ministry statement said Monday.

In comments that made headlines here, Secretary of Defense William J. Perry said over the weekend that Washington had proposed joint exercises with the Mexican armed forces.

"And they have that under consideration now, and I believe that there will be certainly joint naval exercises conducted in the next year or so," Mr. Perry said.

The comments apparently struck a raw nerve, and Mexican officials swiftly assured the public that U.S. soldiers would not be arriving on Mexican soil for maneuvers.

"We remain firmly tied to the fundamental argument of Mexico's foreign policy, which is strict respect for the sovereignty of nations, and the principle that only our armed forces can operate on our national territory," said Javier Trevino, a senior Foreign Ministry official.

In the last few years, as the United States has strengthened its ties to Mexico with a free-trade agreement, the Mexican military has gingerly started to cooperate more with its U.S. counterpart. Last October, Mr. Perry made the first official visit to Mexico by a U.S. secretary of defense.

Mexico said it had asked the U.S. Embassy for "precise information" about Mr. Perry's comments.

Pentagon officials declined to comment on the Mexican statement, but they made it clear that Mr. Perry had simply listed joint exercises among a number of programs the two countries could undertake to help build goodwill.

The proposals were to be discussed next month, they added, when Mexico's defense minister visits the United States.

Philip Morris 'Adjusted' Nicotine, 2 Insist

By John Schwartz
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Philip Morris manipulates nicotine levels in its cigarettes to fine-tune the drug's "impact" on smokers, according to three new affidavits from two former scientists and a production official at the tobacco giant.

"It is well recognized within the cigarette industry that there is one principal reason why people smoke — to experience the effects of nicotine," William A. Farone, former director of applied research at Philip Morris, said in one of the affidavits, which were made public Monday by the Food and Drug Administration.

"Nicotine levels were routinely targeted and adjusted by Philip Morris," said Ian L. Uydess, a former company research scientist who said the company used tobacco blending and other technologies to maintain desired nicotine levels.

Philip Morris issued a statement late Monday that it had just received the documents and would not comment fully until it had thoroughly reviewed them.

The affidavits are at odds with sworn 1994 testimony by the then-chief executive of Philip Morris USA, William Campbell. Speaking before a House subcommittee, he said: "So, how do we 'manipulate' or independently 'control' nicotine as our critics charge? The answer is we don't."

Representative Henry A. Waxman, Democrat of California, who was chairman of that and other hearings investigating the tobacco industry, said the three affidavits "clearly contradict the testimony we received from William Campbell under oath."

A federal grand jury is investigating whether the seven chief executives at the April 1994 hearing might have lied under oath. A source close to the investigation said Monday that the grand jury would hear testimony from the three former Philip Morris employees because the information in their affidavits had caused the Justice Department to "revamp and re-evaluate" its inquriy.

The documents could have an explosive effect on many legal challenges facing Philip Morris and the industry. The Food and Drug Administration has proposed regulating tobacco products as drug delivery devices to curb underage smoking. The agency is trying to prove that the companies intend that their products be sold for their drug effects.

The three affidavits go into great detail about the company's research into the pharmacological characteristics of nicotine.

"Tobacco companies like Philip Morris learned a long time ago that it was hard to get people to stay with a good-tasting product if the nicotine level was too low," said Mr. Uydess, a microbiologist who worked on product improvement.

Contradicting testimony by Mr. Campbell that the company checked nicotine levels in its products only during before and after blending of tobaccos, Jerome Rivers detailed a sophisticated system for monitoring those levels at several steps of the process, checking levels as often as hourly.

Those measurements were recorded in a computer database, said Mr. Rivers, who served as a shift manager at a plant where the company made a reconstituted tobacco product known as "blended leaf."

Samples whose nicotine levels were "out of spec" would be pulled from the line to be reprocessed later, his affidavit said, and the company changed its blending to accommodate variability in nicotine.

Although critics have long accused tobacco companies of manipulating nicotine levels for their drug effects, these statements from two senior scientists with recent experience at the company are the strongest evidence yet that the company saw nicotine as a drug and manipulated it to satisfy smokers' physiological needs.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

Marseille Traffic Slowed by Strike

MARSEILLE (Reuters) — A strike almost paralyzed public transport here Tuesday in a revival of a monthlong stoppage in the port that ended in January.

Buses and streetcars were at a standstill while one of the city's two subway lines was also closed and trains on the other ran only sporadically.

Workers accuse city transport officials of failing to out into effect an accord on wages and working conditions reached Jan. 9 that ended the previous monthlong strike. The seven unions have called a renewable 24-hour strike from Tuesday.

South Korea Bus Drivers May Strike

SEOUL (AP) — Unionized bus drivers in South Korea's six biggest cities have threatened to go on strike Wednesday if their demands for a pay raise were not met.

A national federation of bus drivers' unions gave management until midnight Tuesday to accept its demands for a 14.8 percent raise and payment of bonuses six times a year instead of the current five.

Shanghai's first motel will open next month, the motel's manager said Tuesday. *(Reuters)*

Expanded use of ethanol is being allowed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Under a final rule, ethanol marketers can continue to use the standard 10 percent ethanol blend instead of reducing it to only 7.7 percent ethanol. *(AP)*

The Thai cabinet has approved a a loan for the construction of an international airport in Burma. The money will be provided by the Export-Import Bank. *(AP)*

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Antigua (Pay phones)	1-800-366-4663	Ecuador	999-171	Liechtenstein +	155-9777	Singapore +	8000-177-177
Argentina	001-800-777-1111	Egypt (Cairo) +	356-4777	Lithuania	8◆197	Slovak Republic +	0042-087-187
Armenia	8-10-155	El Salvador	800-1776	Luxembourg	0800-0115	South Africa +	0-800-99-0001
Aruba ‡‡	800-8870	Fiji Islands	004-890-100-3	Macao	0800-121	Spain	900-99-0013
Australia (Optus) +	1-800-5511-10	Finland +	9800-1-0284	Malaysia +	800-0016	Sweden +	020-799-011
Australia (Telstra) +	1-800-881-877	France +	19◆0087	Mexico +	95-800-877-8000	Switzerland +	155-9777
Austria +	022-903-014	Germany +	0130-0013	Monaco +	19◆0087	Syrian Arab Republic +★	0888
Bahamas +	1-800-389-2111	Greece +	008-001-411	Netherlands Antilles ★ (Curacao & Bonaire) +	001-800-745-1111	Taiwan	0080-14-0877
Bahrain	800-777	Guam	950-1366	Netherlands +	06-022-9119	Thailand	001-999-13-877
Barbados ★	1-800-534-0042	Guatemala +	195	New Zealand	000-999	Turkey +	00-800-1-4477
Belgium +	0800-10014	Honduras ▲	121	Nicaragua (Managua)	171	Ukraine	8-100-15
Belize (hotels)	556	Hong Kong	800-1877	Norway +	800-19877	U.S. Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000
Belize (all other)	812	Hungary +	00◆800-01-877	Panama	115	U.S.A.	1-800-877-8000
Bermuda ★	1-800-623-0877	Iceland +★	800-9003	Peru	176	United Arab Emirates +	800-131
Bolivia	0800-3333	India +	000-137	Philippines (ETPI stations only) ○	105-01	United Kingdom (BT)	0800-89-0877
Brazil	000-8016	Indonesia (Indosat)	001-801-15	Philippines (PhilCom) ▲	102-611	United Kingdom (Mercury)	0500-89-0877
British Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000	Indonesia (Satelindo)	008-801-15	Philippines (PLDT)	105-16	Uruguay	000417
Bulgaria ▲	00-800-1010	Ireland +	1-800-22-55-2001	Poland +	00-800-111-3115	Vatican City +	172-1877
Canada	1-800-877-8000	Israel +	177-102-2727	Portugal +	05017-1-877	Venezuela	800-1111-0
Cayman Islands	1-800-366-4663	Italy +	172-1877	Puerto Rico	1-800-877-8000	Vietnam (calling centers)	1201-1111
Chile	00◆0317	Jamaica (hotels)	875	Romania +	01-800-0877		
China +	108-13	Jamaica (airports/docks)	5	Russia (Moscow) +	155-6133		
Colombia	980-130-010	Japan (DDC) ~	0066-55-877	Russia (all other) +	8095-155-6133		
Costa Rica ~	0800-011-0123	Japan (KDD) +	0039-131	St. Lucia +	1-800-277-7466		
Croatia +	99-385-0113	Jordan	18-800-777	Saipan (Tinian and Rota) +	1-235-0333		
Cyprus ★	080-900-01	Kenya ★	0800-12	Saipan (all other)	235-0333		
Czech Republic +	0042-087-187	Korea (Dacom) +	0039-13				

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THE AMERICAS

The Age Factor May Hurt Dole in a Race With Clinton

By David S. Broder and Richard Morin
Washington Post Service

OAK PARK, Illinois — The age issue, which proved to be no barrier to Senator Bob Dole's drive toward the Republican presidential nomination, looms as a significant factor in what could be a highly competitive general election race with President Bill Clinton, talks with voters here and a new national poll suggest.

As the Kansas senator, now 72, picked up more delegates in four Midwest states that voted Tuesday, a Washington Post-ABC News poll suggested that he may be closing the gap with Mr. Clinton and moving within easy striking range.

Mr. Clinton led Mr. Dole by 52 percent to 43 percent among registered voters in the survey completed Sunday. The margin is virtually identical to that of last November, before Mr. Dole plunged into an intensive period of battling with his Republican rivals, but notably closer than trial heats taken in January and February.

Voters in a focus group in this Chicago suburb and in the national survey said they saw sharp differences between the two men, both in their personal attributes and in the way they would handle key issues, suggesting a keen polarization in the electorate.

But the age issue has emerged as a significant factor. More than one-third of the voters — 35 percent — in the poll said they thought Mr. Dole was too old to serve effectively. While the view is most common among Democrats and Clinton supporters, one-third of the independents and a quarter of the 1992 supporters of Ross Perot — both critical constituencies — cited age as a negative factor for Mr. Dole.

So did 35 percent of those who identified themselves with the religious right, a cornerstone of the Republican coalition.

The 10 voters who met with Washington Post reporters here last Thursday evening — most of them undecided or only loosely committed to a candidate — were vehement on the subject.

"He's got the experience behind him, I've got to say that for him," said Donald Allen, 63, of Schiller Park, who voted for Mr. Clinton in 1992 but is currently undecided. "The problem is the man is just too old."

"I'm glad you said that because I was afraid to say it," said Elizabeth Fodor, 36, of Clarendon Hills, a medical education specialist who is leaning toward Mr. Dole. "I was trying to think how I was going to say that he's too old. My grandmother says the same thing, and she's 86."

Others worried that Mr. Dole may not understand the problems facing younger Americans raising families today.

Still others, however, saw Mr. Dole's age and experience as a clear advantage.

If successful, Mr. Dole would be the oldest man ever elected president. (Ronald Reagan was 69 when first inaugurated) a full generation older than the 49-year-old Mr. Clinton.

That is but one of many contrasts the voters see between the major-party rivals.

When it comes to personal traits, the public sees Mr. Dole as far superior to Mr. Clinton in moral and ethical standards, in being honest and trustworthy and in standing up for his beliefs.

On the other hand, those same citizens credit Mr. Clinton as being more understanding of the problems of people like themselves, with thinking like they do, having a vision for the country and new ideas and with having the personality and temperament they want to see in the presidency.

Three other qualities — experience, the ability to get things done and coolness in a crisis — produced no marked advantage for either.

Mr. Dole was given top marks on handling the economy, on cutting taxes, on reducing the deficit and maintaining military strength.

Mr. Clinton beat him on helping the middle class and the poor, protecting Social Security, preserving Medicare and on education and the environment. The president also enjoys a slight advantage on upholding family values, an issue the Republicans have tried to make their own.

Crime and welfare were rated a tossup, which is a victory of sorts for Mr. Clinton on two other matters on which the Republican Party had placed its stamp.

A total of 1,512 randomly selected adults were interviewed. The survey has a error margin of 3 points.

■ Clinton Strong in California

Senator Dole holds a crushing lead over Patrick J. Buchanan just one week before the California presidential primary, but still faces an uphill struggle here against President Clinton this fall, a new Los Angeles Times Poll has found.

Assuming the moderately low primary turnout predicted by state officials, Mr. Dole would beat Mr. Buchanan by 52 percent to 18 percent among likely Republican voters.

For the general election, however, Mr. Dole's prospects are hardly rosy at this early stage, as he trails Mr. Clinton statewide by a distant 58 percent to 37 percent.

Away From Politics

• **Four seriously ill patents at a veterans hospital** in Texas died after breathing oxygen that may have been tainted by a cleaning chemical, officials said. But an administrator at the U.S. government hospital in Temple denied that the tainted gas had directly caused the deaths. *(WP)*

A gooey ribbon of oil stretched at least five miles out of the mouth of Galveston Bay in the Gulf of Mexico from a barge carrying 714,000 gallons of fuel oil that ran aground and buckled just outside the Houston Ship Channel. Workers placed protective booms around the barge and along nearby shorelines. Nearly a quarter of the barge's load spilled within a few hours of the accident, but none had come ashore by Tuesday morning. *(AP)*

• **As many as 7 million more Americans** will be eligible to choose the president in November than four years ago because of the increase in the voting age population to approximately 196.5 million, the Census Bureau reported. But that is assuming that they register to vote. *(AP)*

• **A woman raped in a nursing home** last summer while in a coma from a 1985 car crash has given birth nine weeks prematurely to a 2-pound, 11-ounce boy. Police officers in Rochester, New York, have gathered blood samples from potential suspects to match to the baby's DNA. The parents of the 29-year-old mother, who are acting as her guardians, rejected an abortion on religious grounds. Her parents, who are Roman Catholic, are considering raising the child, which is expected to survive. *(AP)*

• **Six companies and two individuals** have reached an agreement to pay up to $11.3 million to settle allegations that they encouraged consumers to pay up to $700 each for a 3-D camera by telling them they had won a valuable award. *(AP)*

Ross the Stand-In, Perot the Star?

By Sam Howe Verhovek
New York Times Service

HOUSTON — Here is the latest word on Ross Perot: He is now officially running for president, but this does not mean he is really running for president. At least, not yet.

Organizers of the new political party that Mr. Perot is bankrolling announced that the Dallas billionaire had agreed to allow his name to be entered as an independent presidential candidate on petitions the party is circulating in Texas and in Florida to get on the ballot for this November's election.

Lest anybody conclude that Mr. Perot has therefore made up his mind to run, however, party spokesmen say that he is only acting as a stand-in for that magical nominee — "George Washington the Second," as Mr. Perot likes to put it — that he hopes his party will settle on at a high-tech convention late this summer. At that point, invoking a maneuver that would be unparalleled in presidential politics, Mr. Perot says he plans to step aside and have Mr. Washington 2d substituted for the "Ross Perot" line the party would have earned on the ballot.

Of course, Mr. Perot has never ruled out the possibility that he just might have to bend to the will of the people in his new Reform Party, whose operations he is financing in their entirety, if it is the will of those people that Mr. Perot be the nominee.

Many people who follow Perot took the announcement as simply the strongest sign yet that he plans to run again.

Many people who follow Mr. Perot, who captured 20 million votes as an independent candidate for president in 1992, took Monday's announcement as simply the strongest sign yet that he plans to run again.

"All signs point to another Perot candidacy," said Larry Sabato, a professor of government at the University of Virginia who has studied Mr. Perot.

"He's spending millions of dollars of his own money to buy the newest, shiniest fire engine," Mr. Sabato said. "And when that engine gets to the fire, can anyone imagine anyone else in the cab other than Ross Perot?"

Sharon Holman, a spokeswoman for the party, said, "Perot will lend his name as the stand-in candidate, with the understanding that he will step aside for the Reform Party nominee."

Russ Verney, national coordinator for the party, said Mr. Perot was allowing his name to be used as an independent candidate only in states where the Reform Party had difficulty in getting a separate spot on the ballot. In many of those states, the number of signatures needed for an independent presidential candidate are far less than those for a party ballot position.

By allowing his name to be entered as a presidential candidate on the Florida and Texas petitions, Mr. Perot is of course encouraging speculation that he is, in fact, a presidential candidate.

But Mr. Verney said he was doing so only because it would be logistically difficult to list someone else's name: if the Reform Party did so, Mr. Perot would be limited at that point in how much money he could donate to the "stand-in" candidate. By being the stand-in himself, he faces no such limits.

POLITICAL NOTES

Both Parties Got Starr Money

WASHINGTON — Six months after his appointment as Whitewater independent counsel, Kenneth W. Starr made a $1,750 contribution to a political action committee that donated to four Republican presidential campaigns and an assortment of Democratic candidates around the country.

Records on file with the Federal Election Commission show that Mr. Starr, like many of his fellow partners at the Kirkland & Ellis law firm, made the donation in January 1995 to a political action committee, or PAC, controlled by a senior member of the firm at its Chicago headquarters.

Election commission records show that the committee gave $2,000 each to the Republican presidential campaigns of Bob Dole and Lamar Alexander, and $1,000 each to Phil Gramm and Richard G. Lugar.

The committee also contributed $5,000 to the Washington-based Committee for a Democratic Majority, as well as to Senator Carol Moseley-Braun, an Illinois Democrat, and to the legal defense fund of former Representative Dan Rostenkowski, a Chicago Democrat.

Mr. Starr is a fairly prominent Republican who served as solicitor general in the administration of President George Bush. When he was appointed by a three-judge federal appeals court panel to replace the Whitewater special counsel Robert B. Fiske Jr., also a Republican, Democrats argued that Mr. Starr was too partisan to undertake a broad investigation of President Bill Clinton's finances. *(WP)*

Discord Threatens Farm Bill

WASHINGTON — A fight between House and Senate negotiators over the conservation provisions of a proposed farm bill is threatening to derail the legislation, which many lawmakers have called the most significant environmental accomplishment of the 104th Congress.

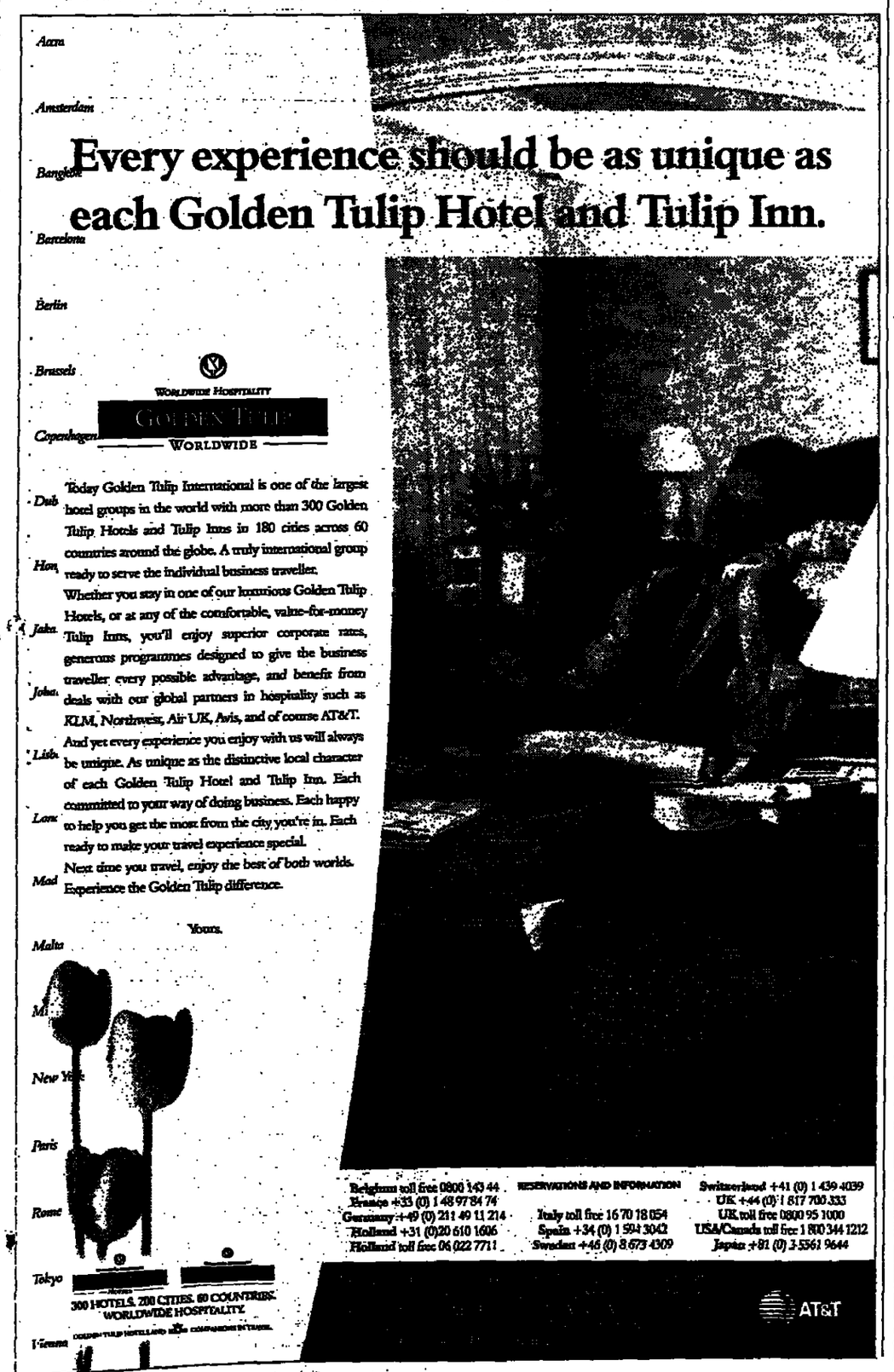
The first meeting of the conference committee to draft the final bill is scheduled for Wednesday. Already, though, in staff discussions and in a storm of correspondence among competing factions, arguments are emerging over wetlands, water rights and innovative financial incentives for farmers to protect the environment.

Differing versions of the bill, already approved by the House and the Senate, contained the largest promise of federal aid offered to farmers to help them prevent polluted runoff and other environmental damage. Far more than in the past, the assistance would be spread among smaller farmers, especially those outside the agricultural heartland. The amount of money involved would run into billions of dollars, rivaling such well-known environmental efforts as the Superfund program for cleaning up toxic industrial wastes.

But while both versions contain conservation measures, the committee seeking to reconcile the two bills is drawn mainly from the agriculture committees of the House and Senate, including farm-state Republicans from the House who originally did not want to include the conservation issues in the farm bill. *(NYT)*

Quote/Unquote

President Clinton, unveiling his budget for the next fiscal year: "In our negotiations with congressional leaders, we have made great progress toward reaching an agreement. We have simply come too far to let this opportunity slip away." *(AP)*



Active in over 40 countries, Lafarge employs more than 34,000 people and is backed by sales of FRF 33 billion. The Group holds leading positions in each of its core businesses: cement, concrete and aggregates, gypsum, and specialty products. With its products and its expertise developed around the world, Lafarge helps to improve the quality of life by enhancing comfort, safety and esthetic appeal.

Internet: http://www.bourse-de-paris.fr

Growth in 1995 earnings

IN AN UNFAVORABLE ENVIRONMENT...

The business environment was not particularly favorable in 1995. Despite a number of important positive factors, such as growth in emerging countries, relatively firm pricing and rising demand for gypsum products, the year was impacted by the second-half slowdown in mature markets and by an increase in certain cost factors.

... LAFARGE INCREASED ITS EARNINGS...

Net income after minority interests rose by 6% in 1995, to FRF 2,350 million. Operating income before non recurring items, interest and taxes remained nearly stable at FRF 4,040 million, due to the combination of a sharp improvement in earnings of Lafarge Corporation (North America), a decline in operating profit from the cement business in Central Europe (essentially in Austria), and from the concrete and aggregate activities, and an increase in operating profits from emerging countries and from the gypsum division.

Non recurring items, which include provisions and capital gains and losses on divestments, came to a net FRF 397 million, compared with FRF 296 million in 1994. Net interest expense amounted to FRF 552 million (FRF 645 million in 1994) and income taxes were FRF 851 million (FRF 963 million in 1994).

Earnings per share were FRF 26.6, representing an increase of 3% over 1994. The payment of a dividend of FRF 10 per share, or FRF 15 with the associated tax credit, will be submitted for approval at the annual shareholders meeting. Due to the larger share base following the July 1995 bonus share issue, the proposed dividend represents a 10% increase in payout.

... AND PURSUED ITS DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Consolidated investments amounted to FRF 5.9 billion in 1995, financed primarily from working capital provided by operations (FRF 4.8 billion) and proceeds from divestments. Lafarge has continued its development in Central Europe (Poland, Austria and Germany), in the Mediterranean basin (Spain, Turkey and Morocco), and in Latin America (Brazil).

With stockholders' equity of FRF 30.8 billion and net debt of FRF 2.9 billion, Lafarge has a solid financial structure to pursue its strategy.

LAFARGE

MATERIALS FOR BUILDING OUR WORLD

ALTEDIA CONSEIL - Photo H. Becquer

China Looks to Talks With Christopher to Ease Tensions

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — Even as it opened new military exercises in the Taiwan Strait, China expressed optimism Tuesday that Washington and Beijing could resolve tensions over Taiwan soon.

A meeting between the U.S. and Chinese foreign ministers, Warren M. Christopher and Qian Qichen scheduled for April 21 in The Hague, could "enhance mutual understanding and remove those misunderstandings between us," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman, Shen Guofang.

The State Department announced the meeting Tuesday. Despite agreement on the talks, the United States took a firm line on Beijing's military exercises, with two officials noting that China was endangering its U.S. trade status by holding military exercises close to Taiwan.

Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin, speaking in Hong Kong, said that threats to Taiwan could hinder the renewal of trade privileges worth billions of dollars a year to China.

Mr. Rubin told a group of American business executives that President Bill Clinton still supported extending China's most-favored-nation trade status, but given Beijing's hard line toward Taiwan, it would be hard to persuade U.S. lawmakers to go along.

"There is a harsh political reality in Congress," Mr. Rubin said.

And the undersecretary of state for political affairs, Peter Tarnoff, repeated U.S. warnings that the Chinese military exercises could result in an accidental flare-up in the region.

"Based on the information available to us," Mr. Tarnoff said in Singapore, "we do not believe there is an imminent threat to Taiwan. But we are concerned about the possibility of miscalculation."

But Mr. Shen said that China would not be swayed by the U.S. comments on Taiwan, which it considers a renegade province.

"Needless to say, we hope MFN will be renewed," he said. "But on issues of China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, China will not barter away its principles."

Mr. Shen said the United States held "unshirkable responsibility" for the current tensions between Beijing and Taipei and "must immediately stop its activities designed to interfere with China's internal affairs and intensify the tensions."

Among those activities, he cited U.S. sales of arms to Taiwan and the stationing of U.S. warships in the region.

Mr. Tarnoff said the United States had no plans to speed up arms deliveries to Taiwan, including Taipei's order for 150 F-16s fighters. But American and Taiwan officials are scheduled to discuss Taipei's arms needs at an annual consultation this week.

In addition, Defense Secretary William J. Perry said Washington ordered two carrier battle groups to the region to remind Beijing that America is the dominant power in the region.

"Beijing should know, and this will remind them, that while they are a great military power, the premier — the strongest — military power in the Western Pacific is the United States," he said on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Perry warned Beijing not to try to intimidate Taiwan.

Chinese officials and residents reported that People's Liberation Army air, sea and infantry forces had begun drills on and around Hainan, an island in the northern part of the strategic waterway separating Taiwan and the Communist mainland.

The exercises, which had been scheduled to start Monday, were delayed 24 hours by bad weather.

(AFP, Reuters, AP)

BRIEFLY ASIA

Japan Gets Temporary Budget

TOKYO — Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto won opposition support Tuesday for a 50-day stopgap budget, but failed to resolve a protest over a plan to liquidate failed housing loan companies.

The president of the New Frontier Party, Ichiro Ozawa, agreed to the temporary funding bill in a meeting with the prime minister. The cabinet had already endorsed the bill, whose details are to be negotiated by senior officials of the governing and opposition parties.

But Mr. Ozawa refused to end an opposition protest that has stalled the lower-house budget committee since March 4. *(AFP)*

New Delhi Sets Election Dates

NEW DELHI — India's federal election commission announced Tuesday that general elections would be held on four days — April 27, May 2, 7 and 21. The commission said that elections will last only one day in each constituency. *(Reuters)*

Canberra Opposition Picks Chief

CANBERRA — The Labor Party elected the former deputy prime minister, Kim Beazley, as opposition leader Tuesday, 17 days after voters threw the party out in national elections. Mr. Beazley replaces Paul Keating, who had been prime minister for four years.

Labor had held power for 13 years before it was defeated by the conservative Liberal-National coalition, led by Prime Minister John Howard. *(AP)*

For the Record

40 people accused of organizing riots in Irian Jaya Province in which five people died have been arrested, the military said in Jayapura, Indonesia. *(Reuters)*

Two U.S. airmen based in northern Japan were sentenced Tuesday to suspended prison terms for violating Japan's tough law against firearms. They had been accused of shooting birds. *(AFP)*

A Vietnamese court sentenced two Americans residing in Hanoi to 10 and 12 years in prison for credit card fraud, the defense attorney for one of them said. *(AP)*

VOICES From Asia

Marvin Reyes, a disk jockey at the Quezon City disco where 150 youths died in a fire: "It was like hell." *(AP)*

Hiroshi Tada, deputy health and welfare minister, on a Japanese investigation on how the Health Ministry had allowed the spread of blood products tainted with the virus that causes AIDS: "To be frank, it has not been adequate." *(Reuters)*

Off Taiwan, U.S. Navy Faces China (but Mostly on CNN)

By Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service

ABOARD THE U.S. CARRIER INDEPENDENCE, off Taiwan — Lieutenant Steven H. Cargill is one of the fighter pilots on alert, ready to be catapulted off the deck in an F/A-18 jet if China challenges the flotilla. But Lieutenant Cargill is not looking very tense.

"This is the first time I've stood an alert, but it doesn't really mean very much," he said, noting that his only restriction is that he cannot leave the aircraft carrier — which does not hamper him much, since the ship is surrounded by ocean.

The Independence is part of what may be the largest American armada in East Asia since the end of the Vietnam War, and sparks are flying between Washington and Beijing over the ships' presence near Taiwan. But on board the flotilla, the mood is casual, and just about everyone seems to expect the salvos to remain verbal.

President Bill Clinton ordered the Independence battle group to the Taiwan area — along with another aircraft carrier, the Nimitz, which is expected to arrive within another week or so — in an attempt to discourage China, which is trying to intimidate Taiwan with military exercises.

But here at sea, there is no sense of any binocular-to-binocular confrontation, in part because American officials seem intent on avoiding a confrontation with China if at all possible.

For starters, the United States has kept its ships about as far as they could from China without leaving the neighborhood, with the Independence now cruising placid waters that the ship's officers say are 400 miles from the Chinese coast, and 200 miles from Taiwan, to the island's southeast.

Even the Bunker Hill, which is packed with electronic gear to monitor the Chinese exercises, is said to be 100 miles from the Chinese coast.

Senior officers have told pilots on the Independence not to go within 100 miles of Taiwan. The upshot is that the Independence is so far out to sea that its crew reports no contact with Chinese ships or airplanes so far.

Officers speculated, in fact, that the Chinese generals may know about the carrier's presence only through watching CNN.

The crew on the Independence is also watching CNN, learning from it and from intelligence briefings about China's displeasure with their presence in the region. On Sunday, the Chinese prime minister, Li Peng, warned the American carriers to stay out of the Taiwan Strait.

Though Washington is not saying where it will send its ships, speculation on board is that the carriers will not enter the strait, as the Nimitz did last December. In the officers' mess, as the pilots munch pizza and mixed vegetables, the talk turns to China's military abilities but the mood is one of intense interest rather than apprehension.

"The only tension in the crew is that we're all sick and tired of each other," Lieutenant Byron G. Chew, a 30-year-old pilot of an S-3 anti-submarine plane, said good-naturedly. After a leer and a mumble from another pilot, he acknowledged, "Of course, there are other tensions, but we're going to have to get ashore to get rid of them."

Still, intelligence experts have briefed the American pilots about Chinese ships and planes and the weapons they carry, and the carrier is on a low-level alert status. Five pilots and their planes are supposed to be ready to take off on 60 minutes' notice.

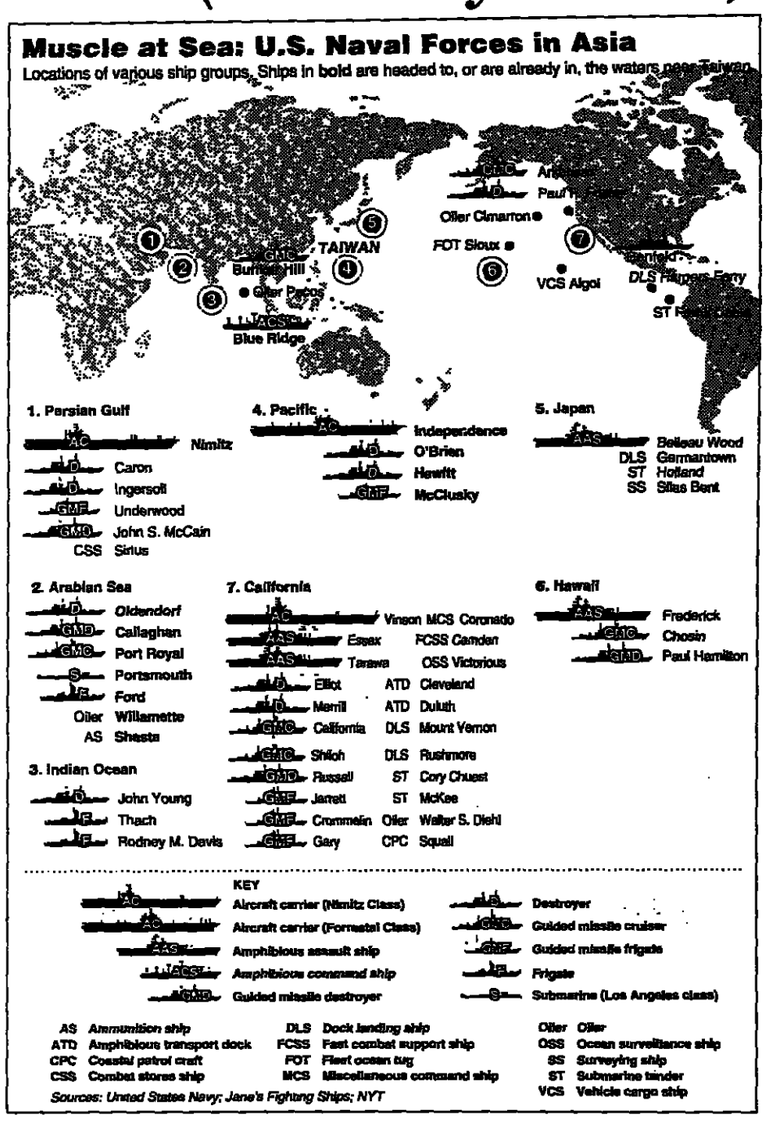
But the military rules of engagement remain unchanged, which means that fighter pilots and ship gunners cannot open fire on their own initiative unless they witness an attack on the carrier group.

American officers on the Independence said that although they did not anticipate any trouble with China, they were being very careful.

"If we detected a submarine tomorrow, I think someone would react to it," said Commander Donald Aiken, a 40-year-old pilot of the S-3 anti-submarine plane. "But I think they'd be cautious."

Frank Wu/Agence France-Presse

A political pitch from President Lee of Taiwan: He was campaigning at a baseball stadium in Tainan.



Fire Probe to Target Disco's Blocked Exit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MANILA — As relatives sought Tuesday to identify the 150 people killed in a disco fire, President Fidel V. Ramos ordered an inquiry into how the building could have had no emergency exit.

The disco's original emergency exit had been blocked by a new building next door, investigators said, and there were no signs to point the way to the rear door.

"You better get the owners here for investigation," Mr. Ramos told police officers accompanying him on a visit to the charred ruins of the Ozone nightclub in Manila's Quezon City district.

"If any of them refuse," he said, "I order their arrest."

The club was normally crowded Monday nights, when drinks were half-price and entrance fees reduced. But it was even more crowded than usual when the fire broke out because students were celebrating the end of the school year.

"We saw smoke and tried to run outside, but were caught in a stampede," a survivor said. "I was stepped on, but managed to force my way out."

Bodies were piled waist-deep in the narrow corridor leading to the club's front exit, and many were charred so badly that families had to sort through jewelry, makeup kits and shoes Tuesday to identify the victims.

Mayor Mel Mathay of Quezon City told Mr. Ramos that 149 bodies had been recovered from the debris and that another person had died at a hospital. He said eight people were in serious condition. Nearly 50 people were hospitalized, doctors said, many with serious burns.

"I could not do anything," said Remy Menguis, a door guard. "There was just a rush of people."

The Quezon City safety engineer, Alfredo Macapugay, said the disco had been approved for use by only 35 people at a time.

Survivors reported seeing electric sparks and smoke coming from around the disk jockey's booth moments before the disco went black.

"We went to celebrate the last day of school," said Susan Capuslan, 17, one of the 350 revelers in the nightclub. "We were lucky to be seated near the exit."

"Suddenly the lights went out," she said. "I thought it was a gimmick, but then suddenly somebody shouted, 'Fire.' All I can remember is that there was pandemonium."

Hermilo Ocampo, head of the company that managed the disco, said he was not responsible for the tragedy and showed a television station what he said was a valid, safety certification.

"It just so happened that the smoke was so thick," he said. "It was dark, the lights were off and the people in front had nowhere to run, so they panicked."

But he admitted that some employees had escaped by using a back entrance. A fire marshal said there were no signs indicating the rear exit. *(Reuters, AP, AFP)*

Ignored, Japan's Earthquake Predictor Quits Post

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Frustrated over the government's strict requirements for issuing earthquake warnings, the head of Japan's earthquake prediction program is quitting, officials said Tuesday.

The program head, Kiyoo Mogi, cited disappointment that the government was unwilling to notify the public about predicted earthquakes unless forecasters could prove it would occur.

"It is extremely difficult to determine whether an earthquake will hit or not," Mr. Mogi said as he announced his resignation as head of a panel of six scientists that would indirectly notify top officials if seismic activity indicated a quake.

Mr. Mogi, who has been on the panel since 1979 and has been chairman for the last five years, advocated warnings ranked by color: black alert for a certain quake, white for a possibility and gray for a strong possibility. But his recommendations were rejected consistently.

The panel makes its predictions based on readings from seismographs and volume strain meters in 133 locations in the Tokai area, near Tokyo.

Critics charge that those who maintain that earthquakes can be predicted have led the public into a false sense of security.

Japan spent more than 10.8 billion yen ($100 million) on earthquake prediction research last year, and has earmarked 15.8 billion yen for the current year. But no quake has ever been forecast.

Koalas Get a Reprieve And Maybe New Home

The Associated Press

SYDNEY — After international outrage over a proposal to shoot 2,000 koalas on Kangaroo Island off South Australia State, officials agreed Tuesday to discuss relocating them to the neighboring state of New South Wales.

South Australia's National Parks and Wildlife Service says there are 2,000 too many koalas on Kangaroo Island, and to prevent mass starvation they must be either killed or relocated within months. The agency opted to shoot them.

But the premier of New South Wales state, Bob Carr, put his wildlife officials in touch with the South Australians because he was "very alarmed" at the suggestion.

The federal environment minister, Robert Hill, said he would help the states coordinate a relocation program.

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EUROPE

Exhorting the British, Kohl Calls for EU Unity

He Predicts That London Will Go Along

Reuters

BONN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Tuesday called European unity the most decisive issue of the 20th and 21st centuries and forecast that even a skeptical Britain would eventually join its EU partners in further integration.

Mr. Kohl, speaking before the European Union starts a long Maastricht review conference next week, said Europe risked sliding back into nationalist competition if it did not move forward to greater unity.

Any delay in the Union's economic and monetary union would be catastrophic for Germany because it would trigger a flight into the Deutsche mark that could price German goods out of many export markets, he said at a news conference in Bonn.

Mr. Kohl, with one eye on three state elections coming up on Sunday, added that a planned "Alliance for Jobs" aiming to halve Germany's 10 percent unemployment by the year 2000 could not succeed if export markets were lost.

"This is the most decisive, historic event of this and the next century," he said of the Union's plans for further unity. "If it fails, we will have to carry the consequences."

Mr. Kohl chided the British press for what he called absurd reporting on a speech he gave last month, in which he said that European integration was "an issue of war and peace."

Several British newspapers interpreted the phrase, a stock element in Mr. Kohl's staunchly pro-European rhetoric, as a veiled threat to Britain. Mr. Kohl said that British business was pro-European and that politicians would eventually follow its lead.

"I have a theory, and I will say it even at the risk of provoking evil headlines in London again tomorrow," he said.

"The City is going to Europe," he said, referring to London's financial center, "and if the City goes there, others will follow."

The British government opposes the single currency that the EU plans to introduce in 1999, as well as several key measures toward further unity due to be discussed at the review conference opening in Turin on March 29.

By contrast, Bonn wants as many members as possible to join the monetary union, seeks more majority voting in foreign and legal affairs and wants to strengthen the European Parliament.

Mr. Kohl said his government would introduce massive spending cuts in 1997 to prevent the federal budget deficit from running out of control.

Germany recently had to acknowledge that it had missed the deficit criterion for monetary union last year, with a deficit of 3.6 percent of gross domestic product, and would have a deficit of 3.5 percent of GDP this year, instead of the 3 percent target.

Tim Brakemeier/Agence France-Presse

Mr. Kohl preparing to deliver his appeal in Bonn on Tuesday.

Dane Calls Expansion to East Key Test for EU

Reuters

COPENHAGEN — Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen of Denmark said Tuesday that the European Union must agree to expand eastward or have its forthcoming Intergovernmental Conference condemned as a failure.

"The enlargement issue is generally seen as the major issue by all countries," Mr. Petersen said in an interview ahead of the opening in Turin on March 29 of the review of EU treaties.

"The Central and Eastern Europeans keep knocking at our door and we have to come up with a decent answer to them, therefore this is an issue we cannot escape," he said

Accommodating the EU's eastern neighbors, he added, is vital for Europe's long-term security as well as being of economic importance.

Referring to the upcoming conference, Mr. Petersen said:

"Can the EU, after the conclusion of the IGC, start enlargement? If they can it's good, if they can't it's a disaster, that's the bottom line for my government and for myself."

Mr. Petersen said he believed that most of the Union's 15 members agreed on the principle of expansion, although eventual negotiations on how to pay for it could engender disagreement.

"The question of financing the enlargement is not on the agenda but is an issue which will have to be solved, if not in the IGC then somewhere else," he said. "This is where we will have clashes of interest."

High on the agenda, he added, will be the need for more openness in EU lawmaking. Although much had been achieved, he said, there is room for improvement despite widely differing attitudes to open government among members.

"Its not an easy one for any of us, because we come to this question from quite different traditions," Mr. Petersen said.

He said that harder still would be discussion of how to strengthen joint foreign and defense policy, and whether voting on such issues should be by majority, ending members veto rights.

"We are willing to consider that certain decisions inside the framework of the common security and foreign policy could be taken on the basis of consensus minus one or two," he said, noting that in the past the veto had been abused.

"We have seen examples where Greece has blocked necessary economic support for Albania and Macedonia and blocked other necessary steps toward these countries," Mr. Petersen said, adding that Greece had since become more open to compromise.

Employment and environmental issues would also be key issues at the talks, which are expected to go on for about a year, he said.

He said that although Economic and Monetary Union would not be on the conference agenda, Britain would probably face pressure to reverse its opt-out of the Maastricht treaty's provisions on social conditions.

New Tuberculosis Threat

Drug-Resistant Strain Worries Experts

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

A report about a serious outbreak of drug-resistant tuberculosis that killed 33 patients in a Milan hospital is a warning of what could happen if one of mankind's oldest scourges gets out of hand.

The report on the 1992-93 outbreak, prepared for publication in the European Journal of Epidemiology, concludes that the hospital staff did not realize the seriousness of the disease at first because tuberculosis was not considered a health priority. In addition, the huge Niguarda hospital in Milan lacked air-filtering and decontamination equipment, the isolation of patients was not monitored and patients were allowed to leave their rooms.

Specialists say that developed countries that thought tuberculosis was vanquished are facing a resurgence of the disease, often in a deadly new and virtually incurable form. The World Health Organization is expected to release a report Thursday drawing attention to the alarming spread of the disease.

"There are probably more TB cases in the world today than there have ever been before," said Sir John Crofton of Edinburgh University, a pioneer in the multidrug treatment that once held out hope that the disease could be eradicated.

Sir John called the Milan hospital outbreak, which began among vulnerable AIDS patients, "terrifying," because it involved a strain of the disease deadlier even than the Ebola virus or the bubonic plague.

Dr. Walter Arossa, a specialist in Turin, said Italy dismantled its network of tuberculosis sanatoriums and clinics in the 1970s believing the disease to be a thing of the past. Medical students receive little training in dealing with it, he said.

What Italy needed, he said, was a clear government strategy for dealing with the problem.

Although tuberculosis can strike anyone, "People who have HIV are fantastically susceptible," said Sir John, referring to the virus that causes AIDS.

"Two HIV patients at a clinic in London contracted the disease after sitting in a passage when a TB patient was wheeled past them on a trolley."

The Milan outbreak involved a strain of the disease resistant to seven of the nine drugs known to be effective in treating tuberculosis. Several similar, but smaller, outbreaks have been reported in the United States.

The report on the Milan case said that it was an indication that in Italy, at least, "hospitals seem not to be prepared to face a dramatic increase of infectious tuberculosis cases among HIV patients. Isolation facilities are not adequate and renovations are rather costly."

The same could be said of many other countries, experts say. A disease that once carried off one European in every seven seems to have lost its power to shock. It had become largely eradicated or was considered easily treatable in some of the developed countries where it is now making a comeback in the wake of the HIV epidemic. It receded in the public consciousness to such an extent that governments cut off funds needed for tuberculosis research and prevention.

In some Third World regions, on the other hand, including parts of Africa, tuberculosis is prevalent.

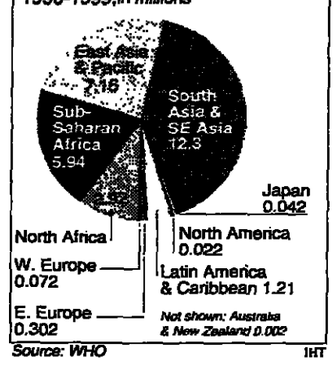
The disease is, in fact, the leading infectious killer of adults. The World Health Organization estimates that 300 million people will contract tuberculosis in the next decade and that 30 to 40 million will die from it. Yet, according to the health organization, tuberculosis attracts only about $16 million in international funding for eradication and treatment.

Officials estimate it would require at least $100 million a year to mount an effective global assault.

Tuberculosis can be cured in more than 90 percent of the cases with a combination of two to four drugs for as little as $11.

Some doctors fail to prescribe the full range of drugs, however, and some patients stop taking the medicine as soon as they feel better. In some of those cases patients will remain infected by the most resistant form of the tuberculosis bacillus, which they can then pass on to other people.

Estimated Cumulative Tuberculosis Deaths
1990-1999, in millions



Source: WHO IHT

BRIEFLY EUROPE

EU Moves on Racist Literature

BRUSSELS — European Union interior minsisters agreed Tuesday on a plan designed to clamp down on the printing and dissemination of racist books and pamphlets.

The British home secretary, Michael Howard, who had blocked the plan in November, agreed to it Tuesday after it was modified to accommodate British law, which holds that such literature must be proven to be intended to incite racial hatred before it can be seized.

The cooperative effort was prompted by Germany, which wants to crack down on neo-Nazi and other racist groups that publish literature denying that the Holocaust occurred. Such publication carries criminal penalties in Germany and France, but Bonn is concerned that racist groups are taking advantage of laws in other countries to print material for distribution in Germany. *(Reuters)*

Italian Coalitions Running Even

ROME — Italy's center-right and center-left coalitions were running neck-and-neck Tuesday with just over a month to go before a general election, a poll showed.

According to the Datamedia survey, 45.3 percent of potential voters supported the center-left Olive Tree bloc, while 45 percent said they preferred the center-right Freedom Alliance led by former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. Nearly 29 percent of the voters said they were undecided.

Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia was slightly ahead as the most popular party, polling 20.8 percent support compared with 20.5 percent for the Democratic Party of the Left and 19 percent for the far-right National Alliance. *(Reuters)*

French Protests in Abortion Case

LYON — Pro-choice and anti-abortion protesters demonstrated in front of an appeals court in Lyon on Tuesday as 40 people went on trial for chaining themselves up in hospital wards in an attempt to prevent abortions in three cities in eastern France. A line of policemen kept the demonstrators apart.

The 40 people on trial, who include a bishop, a fashion model, an army officer and an AIDS victim, were convicted by lower courts of occupying maternity wards and gynecology departments in hospitals in Lyon, Roanne and Bourg-en-Bresse in 1994 and 1995. A court in Roanne handed down the harshest sentences, jailing anti-abortion protesters for the first time in France by handing down 18-month sentences, 15 of them suspended, against four of the accused.

Abortion has been legal in France since 1979, but in recent years anti-abortion protesters have copied some of the activist methods of American groups.

In the legislature last week, an anti-abortion amendment was thrown out when only three conservative deputies voted to support it. *(AFP)*

Calendar

European Union events on Wednesday:

BRUSSELS: Weekly meeting of the European Commission. Agenda items include new proposals on supplementary financing for major European projects, and support for small and medium sized companies within the EU.

BRUSSELS: Meeting of justice and interior ministers continues.

BRUSSELS: Karel Van Miert, European commissioner in charge of competition, meets with the German minister for posts and telecommunications, Wolfgang Bötsch.

BRUSSELS: The commissioner in charge of preparing the revision, Marcelino Oreja, speaks to the European Parliament's institutional commission.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP

Killer Cremated Away From Grief Of Scottish Town

Reuters

LONDON — Thomas Hamilton, the vengeful misfit who massacred 16 children and their teacher at a Scottish school, was cremated Tuesday in a secret family service.

Six days after his murderous rampage and suicide, the ceremony took place well away from Dunblane, the town he plunged into grief, the police said.

Only his family was present.

A police spokesman, Louis Munn, confirming that the cremation had taken place, said in a brief statement:

"In an attempt to minimize further distress, no more information will be provided."

The police have appealed to the world's news organizations, which descended en masse to cover the killings, to leave the people of Dunblane to grieve in private.

As the families of the victims buried their five- and six-year old dead, Prime Minister John Major said that a review of gun-control laws had begun.

Mr. Major has announced that a senior judge, Lord Cullen, is leading an investigation into the killings.

The shootings prompted immediate calls for tougher curbs on guns.

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Israel May Expel Suspect Militants

Hamas Urges Arab Nations Not to Take the Deportees

Reuters

TEL NOF AIR BASE, Israel — Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday that Israel was making plans to expel Palestinians linked to Muslim militant groups that have killed 58 victims in four suicide bombings.

Asked if Israel would expel supporters of the Islamic group Hamas, or their relatives, he replied: "The list will become known once it goes through military checks or legal checks" in accordance with Israeli law.

He declined to say how many would be expelled or how soon.

"We are investigating what are the best measures in order to prevent another act of suicidal terror," Mr. Peres said at this base in central Israel.

Israel faced international condemnation in December 1992 when it deported about 400 suspected Hamas members to a "no-man's land" in southern Lebanon. Middle East analysts said, however, that foreign criticism might be muted this time because of the bombings.

Mr. Peres also said there was no major change in Israel's policy at its northern border with Lebanon and dismissed reports Israel was planning immediate tough action against the Iranian-backed Muslim group Hezbollah operating there.

But he warned: "Anyone who tries to harm Israel will be punished in the swiftest way."

Hamas, reacting to reports that Israel was planning a mass expulsion, faxed a statement to news agencies urging Arab states not to admit anyone Israel might expel. "This step will aggravate the tension in the region and will increase the feeling of anger and injustice among the Palestinian people," the Hamas statement said.

Mr. Peres declined to say where deportees would be sent, saying only: "It's an interesting question. We should contemplate it."

Hamas — the Islamic Resistance Movement — claimed responsibility for the suicide bombings: two in Jerusalem, one in Tel Aviv and a fourth in Ashkelon, southern Israel.

Mr. Peres clamped down two weeks ago on Palestinians, barring workers from going to jobs in Israel since the bombings threw Middle East peacemaking — and his chances of election this May — into doubt.

"The point of the closure is not punishment," he said. "Its imposition or removal is a matter of security considerations only. We have no intention of preventing people from selling their produce or obtaining medicine."

Palestinians say that the closure is a collective punishment that deprives them of their livelihoods. Every Gaza Palestinian who works in Israel supports about 10 people, UN sources said.

An airlift of Thai workers to Israel began on Tuesday with the arrival of 238 farm laborers due to take the jobs of Palestinians barred from the Jewish state.

"It's the beginning of the mass of workers coming now because of the situation," an Agriculture Ministry official, Liora Fine-Hiller, said at Ben-Gurion airport near Tel Aviv.

The ministry has said it planned to bring in 4,000 additional foreign workers to join the 73,000, mainly from Thailand, Romania and China, already employed legally in Israel.

Officials say that 100,000 more unlicensed foreigners work in the country.

Mrs. Fine-Hiller said the Thai workers had signed a one-year contract with an option to renew for a year.

Don't Act Alone, Cheney Urges U.S.

Reuters

ABU DHABI — Dick Cheney, the former U.S. defense secretary, on Tuesday criticized American efforts to isolate Iran and other countries through unilateral economic sanctions, saying they would backfire.

"Let me make a generalized statement about a trend I see in the U.S. Congress that I find disturbing, that applies not only with respect to the Iranian situation but a number of others as well," he told a group of businessmen in Abu Dhabi. "There seems to be an assumption that somehow we know what's best for everybody else and that we are going to use our economic clout to get everybody else to live the way we would like."

Mr. Cheney said economic sanctions against Iraq were justified because they were backed by the international community.

But he emphasized his belief that unilateral moves to isolate countries damaged U.S. interests.

"The reality is those kinds of sanctions, unless they are part of an international effort, are in fact self-defeating," he said.

The United States in 1995 banned U.S. companies from trade and investment in Iran. President Bill Clinton has authority to impose penalties against companies from third countries that conduct oil-related business with Iran.

Mr. Cheney is touring the Gulf to meet government officials and businessmen.

René Clément Dies, Won Oscar In 1952 for 'Forbidden Games'

By Holcomb B. Noble
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — René Clément, the French director of the Oscar-winning 1952 film "Forbidden Games" — about a little girl orphaned by war — and 14 other movies that reflected life by blending the approach of the documentarian with a touch of poetic elegance, died Sunday in Monaco, a day before his 83d birthday.

Among his other highly praised films was "Gervaise" (1956), the story of the tragic life of an indigent woman played by the German actress Maria Schell, in the working-class Paris of the mid-19th century.

Preoccupied with World War II subjects during much of his career, Mr. Clément also directed "The Battle of the Rails," a vivid drama of the sabotage activities of the French resistance rail workers in World War II. And he made "Is Paris Burning?" (1966), which had long runs in theaters around the world, though it met with less critical success.

Olga Rudge, 101, Pound's Companion

Olga Rudge, 101, the Ohio-born violinist who became companion, caretaker and champion of the brilliant but embattled poet Ezra Pound, died Friday at the castle of their daughter near Merano in northern Italy.

Miss Rudge stood by Pound through his indictment on charges of treason for broadcasting fascist propaganda from Italy during World War II and through the dozen years when he was held in the St. Elizabeth's Hospital for the Criminally Insane in Washington. After he was set free in 1958, they returned to their beloved Venice, where Pound died at age 87 in 1972.

Ray S. Cline, 77, *Top CIA Officicial*

ARLINGTON, Virginia (AP) — Ray S. Cline, 77, a chief of the CIA's intelligence directorate in the early 1960s who later wrote it "was not illogical" for the agency to employ the Mafia to assassinate President Fidel Castro of Cuba, died Friday.

Mr. Cline, who retired from the government in 1973, had suffered from Alzheimer's disease. He joined the CIA in 1949 and from 1962 to 1966 was chief of its intelligence directorate, the office that collects and analyzes raw data and classified information.

Mugabe Wins, but Just 28% Vote

The Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — President Robert Mugabe was officially declared the winner of the presidential election on Tuesday, but the lowest election turnout in the independent nation's history appeared to signal a sharp decline in his popularity.

The registrar of voters, Tobaiwa Mudede, said Mr. Mugabe got 1,404,501 votes — just over 28 percent of the nation's registered voters and nearly 93 percent of votes cast — to extend his 16-year rule for another six-year term.

Yunus Omerjee, an official of the Justice Ministry, said Parliament would convene an inauguration ceremony for Mr. Mugabe before his current term in office expires on March 31.

Mr. Mugabe won in all but one of the 120 constituencies. Two opposition candidates, whose names remained on ballots even though they had announced their withdrawals, picked up 109,560 votes, or just over 7 percent of valid votes cast.

The total turnout in voting Saturday and Sunday was 31.7 percent of the registered electorate of 4.9 million and was considered an embarrassment to Mr. Mugabe. Mr. Mugabe had held more than 40 rallies to drum up support.

Ex-Leader Returns In Benin

The Associated Press

COTONOU, Benin — Benin's former dictator and the first African leader to be removed through the ballot box was returned to power Tuesday in an upset at the polls.

State-run radio announced that Mathieu Kérékou had won 59 percent of the vote, overwhelming the incumbent, President Nicephore Soglo, who got 41 percent of ballots cast in Monday's presidential runoff.

The vote must be confirmed by the constitutional court.

During 17 years in power, General Kérékou was accused of running the economy into the ground and torturing political opponents. But economic reforms imposed by Mr. Soglo after his election in 1991 led to inflation and unemployment that ultimately turned much of the population against him.

One of General Kérékou 's first tasks will be to convince international donors and lending institutions that he has abandoned socialist policies and will continue the free-market system that made Benin's economy one of the fastest-growing in West Africa, though that may lead to short-term hardship.

General Kérékou , 63, and his supporters had accused Mr. Soglo of nepotism, greed and indifference to the poor.

NATO Intelligence Keeping Close Tabs On Bosnia Factions

By Rick Atkinson
Washington Post Service

POREBRICE, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A U.S. Army eavesdropping post picked up a surprising Serb military radio broadcast earlier this month. The decoded transmission implied that Serb artillery could be hidden in barns because NATO soldiers in Bosnia rarely search farm buildings for weapons that might violate the terms of the Dayton peace agreement.

Within hours, an army order was issued: Start looking in barns.

"It was true," a senior U.S. officer said. "We usually didn't go into barns on private property. Now we do."

The cat-and-mouse game played between Bosnia's warring factions and the NATO-led Implementation Force has deployed the largest U.S. military intelligence operation since the Gulf War in an effort to keep up with the Serbs, the Croats and the Muslims.

"I heard an intercept this morning that said, 'They're listening to us.' And we are," said Colonel Charles J. Green, commander of the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade. "They're cagey. They know we're the best in the world at doing SigInt," or signals intelligence.

"We're not omniscient," he said, "but we're very good."

NATO commanders say they believe that the generally diligent compliance by the factions, and the decreasing number of violations of the Dayton agreement, can be attributed in part to a smothering intelligence blanket that enables the force to root out scofflaws.

Satellite and reconnaissance photos have been shown to commanders of local factions to document their violations.

"It definitely intimidates them, since they don't know where we're looking," said Major Dave Thurlow, intelligence officer for the 1st Brigade of the 1st Armored Division. "There's still an awful lot of distrust out there, so the temptation to cheat is pretty strong."

Colonel Gregory Fontenot, the brigade commander, added. "They have to believe that we're going to catch them."

Well over 1,000 U.S. Army intelligence troops serve in northeastern Bosnia alone and a national intelligence support team at the U.S. headquarters in Tuzla includes two dozen representatives from the CIA, Defense Intelligence Agency and National Security Agency.

In addition to a constellation of satellites tracking military equipment and illegal movements through the demilitarized zones separating the factions, the spy assets here include Quickfix — an EH-60 helicopter that collects electronic signals — and Guardrail, an army intelligence targeting system stuffed in a plane based in Hungary.

U.S. Air Force JSTARS aircraft, originally designed to track Soviet armored formations, have been watching for arms smuggling from Croatia across the Sava River. Listening posts have been built on several mountaintops in the U.S. sector. Two 1st Armored brigades are using more than 100 small seismic, infrared and magnetic sensors, hidden near trails or roads to detect movement by vehicles or foot traffic.

The CIA has a major operation in Bosnia, and the army relies on patrolling soldiers — some equipped with digital cameras — for point-blank surveillance.

"It's easier here than it was in Iraq because we're in the middle of the ocean, as it were, swimming among the fishes," said Colonel Green. "And people here are fairly garrulous."

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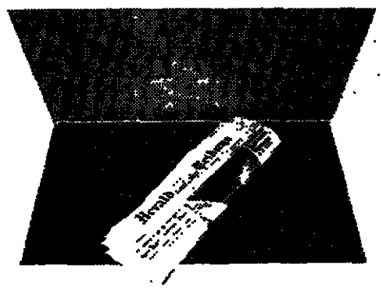

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Bitter Peace in Bosnia

Ethnic Intimidation

Peace has already brought many benefits to the peoples of Bosnia, but it has not brought reconciliation and trust. The most disheartening example is Sarajevo, where an ethnically diverse population survived the war but may not survive the coming of peace. If the pattern of ethnic intimidation and flight that has ravaged the Sarajevo suburbs in recent days extends throughout the country, the promise of a reunified Bosnia will be lost.

Bosnian Serb forces have been withdrawing on schedule from five Sarajevo suburbs and neighborhoods. With NATO soldiers enforcing the deadlines but otherwise looking on, police from the Bosnian-Croatian federation have assumed control. But before towns like Ilidza, Vogosca and Grbavica have been handed over, Serbian residents fled and many buildings were looted and set aflame.

Blame lies chiefly with the Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, who remain determined to complete the division of Bosnia along ethnic lines. The Bosnian government shamefully collaborated by allowing Muslim gangs to bully the few Serbs remaining in Ilidza into leaving.

Important Serbian communities remain in central Sarajevo and in government-controlled cities like Tuzla. Unlike the Serbs in suburban Sarajevo, most of these urban Serbs supported the Bosnian government during the war. But the vengeful spirit that ruled the streets during the transfer of the suburbs is discouraging for them as well.

The main victims of this disaster are the 60,000 Serbs who fled suburban Sarajevo homes. Their fear that returning Muslims and Croats would mistreat them was deliberately encouraged by Mr. Karadzic and General Mladic, whose base of operations is in nearby Pale. Serbs who chose to stay in the suburbs faced pro-Karadzic thugs who burned them out of their homes.

NATO has rightly resisted being drawn too deeply into civilian aspects of the peace agreements. Its main jobs are to make sure that territory is handed over on schedule and that military forces withdraw to new lines. But NATO should have deployed its troops more aggressively to discourage the violence. Belatedly, NATO has now decided to increase patrols.

The Dayton agreement required that both Mr. Karadzic and General Mladic be excluded from political leadership in Serb-controlled regions of Bosnia, but it was vague about how and when that exclusion would be enforced. While the two men are indicted war criminals, subject to arrest on sight, they remain free and in leadership roles. To avoid further ethnic division, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic should make clear to both that their actions must not be repeated. Sanctions against Serbia that block access to international loans should remain in place until this and all other provisions of the Dayton agreement have been fulfilled.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NATO Can Do Better

Tuesday was the day when Sarajevo was meant to emerge from the war's toils as Bosnia's single, unified multiethnic capital. But Serbs and Muslims have seen to it that while the city is escaping from Serbian occupation and terror, it is moving to single Muslim possession and control. This status cuts directly across the fundamental intent of the Dayton peace accords to put a war-divided country gradually back together again. What should have been a day of celebration has been an occasion for no small despair.

It happened this way. Bosnian Serbs moved their troops out and siege guns back from Sarajevo but, to advance their underlying nationalistic ideology of ethnic incompatibility, they also whipped up fears of Muslim retaliation in the Serb-held suburbs. The resulting alarm was reinforced by alternating acts of provocation and neglect by the very Muslim police who were supposed to be protecting anxious Serbs.

Actually, it is worse. The international police presence foreseen by Dayton simply was too weak on the ground to deal with the hoodlums and arsonists expelling Serbs from Sarajevo. And although Dayton specifically instructs the 60,000 NATO-led international peacekeepers to observe and prevent "deliberate violence to life and person," this force has disavowed any "police" function and focused itself narrowly on separating the three Bosnian armies. That is a useful task but no longer the most important one. Meanwhile, NATO attends only by fits and starts to the further essential mission of supporting the war crimes process.

A bitter pair of ironies now marks the Sarajevo scene. "Ethnic cleansing," the defining scourge of the war, is becoming a hallmark of the peace as the Bosnian parties twist the Dayton terms to consolidate ethnic fiefdoms. (The frail American-sponsored federation of Bosnia's Muslims and Croats may yet be a further casualty.) And some of the sharpest complaints against international passivity come from the United Nations, once itself the accused, and are directed against NATO, once itself the accuser.

In this instance, the UN representatives are right. NATO has the power and resources and reason to move Bosnia, at a politically sustainable cost, toward a better end based on the Dayton accords, which the United States, after all, wrote.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Tuberculosis Persists

Tuberculosis remains the world's most frustrating killer. Year after year it kills some 3 million people around the globe, even though effective treatments are known and the cost of applying them is relatively low. Tuberculosis is the leading infectious killer of adults, the leading killer of AIDS victims and the leading infectious killer of women, causing more female deaths than all other causes of maternal mortality combined. If current trends continue, at least 30 million people will die of tuberculosis over the next 10 years.

The great majority of cases go untreated, and those that are treated are often treated inadequately, making the disease worse, not better. Of 8 million new cases of tuberculosis last year, perhaps half a million were treated, but 7.5 million were not. No wonder the disease, which is communicated through droplets sneezed or coughed into the air, continues to spread. Poor treatment can be worse than no treatment because it fosters the development of drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis.

The cure for this disease is known. Medicines taken under the watchful eyes of health personnel for six months — a form of therapy known as directly observed treatment — can cure up to 95 percent of all tuberculosis victims for as little as $11 per case in the developing world. Both the World Bank and the World Health Organization have boosted their budgets for fighting tuberculosis, and a few advanced countries have increased their donations as well. Yet somehow the right combination of money, drugs and properly run programs remains elusive in most areas of the world.

World Health Organization officials estimate that a modest $100 million a year from the industrialized nations over the next decade, mostly to provide drugs, could make the difference between success and failure in controlling tuberculosis. It seems unconscionable, and reckless, not to make that investment.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Isolate Iran?

The Hamas bombs have hardened the United States' resolve to isolate Iran. European governments have rather obvious reasons to resist an embargo on a country that has oil and gas to sell, and 65 million people keen, if only they had the cash, to buy Western goods.

There are less self-interested motives. After 17 years of mullahs' rule, Iran is still no place for an independent-minded person. But under [President Rafsanjani] life is looking up a little. If people like Mr. Rafsanjani are to keep reform on its snail-like track, they need to present Iranians with some evidence of a better, and more prosperous, life. Otherwise, the voters are likely to elect an ultraconservative president next year. Treating Iran as an economic outcast, with the resultant economic penalties, will not make the place nicer or safer.

— The Economist (London).

International Herald Tribune
ESTABLISHED 1887
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S.A. au capital de 1,200,000 F. RCS Nanterre B 732021126. Commission Paritaire No. 61337.
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It's Time for Europe to Settle on a Balkan Policy

By William Pfaff

PARIS — Nobody involved with Bosnia seems willing to think constructively about what will happen in December, when the United States leaves. Only nine months remain.

NATO's ambassadors have agreed for now not to discuss the issue in public, as the allies are badly divided. There has been private discussion of a successor force, but the attitude of most European governments seems to be that the United States "can't" leave.

It can. America's political engagement will not end in December, but U.S. forces are all but certain to leave on schedule. If no serious political progress has taken place in Bosnia by December, Washington's political commitment could be withdrawn as well.

At Dayton, the American delegation at one point told the Bosnians, Serbs and Croats that if they really were incapable of agreement, the United States was ready to terminate its involvement immediately and leave them to find their own way out of their war. This could again become the American position.

The possibility is denied, in West European circles, and in Bosnia as well, where denial is more easily understood but equally dangerous. People there are behaving as if the coming nine months were an opportunity to scramble for advantage, rather than affording them the choice between peace and more war.

By inspiring NATO's intervention, the United States brought a halt to the war. This halt provides an interval in which the Yugoslavs can either come to terms with coexistence, or get ready to go back to war. To discourage the latter, Washington intends to strengthen Bosnian government forces, the weakest of the armies in Bosnia.

Most official Europeans object, saying that arms levels should be "equalized" downward rather than upward. This is an irreproachable sentiment, totally unachievable in practice.

They also don't like the high-profile way in which Washington has handed the Bosnians over to Turkey for military training, which is indeed a serious blunder. Serbs and Croats have all along claimed that they were fighting to keep "the Turks" out of Europe. Washington has now invited the Turks back in.

Ethnic purge meanwhile continues, under the eyes of international representatives in Sarajevo. This time it is self-imposed by the Bosnian Serb leaders, determined that their own people be spared no horror. Residents of the five Serbian districts of Sarajevo which the Dayton agreements placed under Bosnian government authority have been propagandized or bullied into leaving, digging up their dead to take with them, pillaging and burning the neighborhoods they abandon.

NATO says this is a police problem. The handful of UN police now in Sarajevo, who have no enforcement powers, said that if NATO did nothing, no one could do anything.

There will be an election struggle over whether Bosnia abandons the multiethnic principle. Former Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic has formed a party and will run for president against Alija Izetbegovic to defend the liberal principle. At present, an Islamization of the administration is going on, under the influence of Mr. Izetbegovic's majority party — implicitly ceding to the Serbs the moral victory. The Serbs insisted from the beginning that tolerance and a civil politics in Bosnia were impossible and unwanted.

However, ethnic partition is compatible with peace after foreign forces leave Bosnia, if they do leave. The Yugoslav rivals may have had enough of war, and may now be in political and territorial circumstances that they can grudgingly accept, or will tolerate as the alternative to more war.

It even is possible that a foreign troop presence beyond next December would indirectly encourage war by implicitly setting a limit on how far it could go. The huge international presence in Yugoslavia during the last four and a half years did much good, but it also made war less dangerous for the combatants. Had they been left alone to take all the consequences of what they were doing, it would not have been so easy.

The United States has a policy: for NATO to leave in December, and leave behind a balance of forces that may deter the resumption of war. Washington is leaving the choice between war and peace to the Yugoslav peoples.

Europe finds this too stark, too cold-hearted. Europe may be right. The Balkan peoples in the past have needed foreign intervention to keep them from some of their own follies. What alternative policy does Western Europe — the European Union countries — have to offer? What is Europe prepared to do for Yugoslavia next December? Simply follow the United States out, and blame Washington for whatever follows?

If Europe thinks that the international community should stay beyond December, then it should get ready to stay. It has the troops and the resources to do anything it wants in Yugoslavia. It could easily make up the 20,000 soldiers the United States would take out. It will not admit to itself that this is so. It doesn't know what it wants. It has nine months to find out.

International Herald Tribune.
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How Japan's Finance Ministry Serves Itself and Clinton, Too

By R. Taggart Murphy

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — The last three U.S. presidential races were influenced by Japan, and this year looks no different. Washington and Tokyo have agreed on steps intended to prevent soaring interest rates and market instability, the two chief threats to Bill Clinton's re-election.

Government leaders on both sides may win, but American workers are likely to continue to get the short end of the stick.

Japanese support for Mr. Clinton can seem improbable. He is more widely disliked in Japan than any U.S. president since Harry Truman. The Japanese public considers him a Japan-basher. Privately, high-ranking Japanese officials say they would love nothing more than to see the White House back in the hands of a predictable, George Bush-type Republican.

But it is the Ministry of Finance that has the greatest control over Japan's markets. Indeed, the ministry's temporary loss of this control helped defeat George Bush in 1992.

In 1990, officials at the ministry and the Bank of Japan punctured Japan's overheated "bubble economy" by raising interest rates and putting controls on lending. They got more than they had bargained for. Japan's stock market fell to less than half its late 1989 peak, and banks discovered that the development projects they were financing were worth only a fraction of the tens of billions of dollars in loans taken out to finance them.

Needing cash at home, Japanese investors cut their buying of long-term U.S. securities, which helped send long-term American interest rates soaring. These stubbornly high rates helped keep the recession of the early 1990s going much longer than expected, giving Bill Clinton his "It's the economy, stupid!" campaign platform.

This year, Mr. Clinton needs low interest rates for the economy to work in his favor. The one thing that could force the Fed to raise rates sharply is a free fall of the dollar. The Japanese help keep the dollar stable.

Japan has been running trade surpluses of more than a hundred billion dollars for each of the last four years. Its government and private banks hold at least $350 billion — a good half of America's external debt.

Fortunately for Mr. Clinton, the Japanese authorities have almost as much to lose from a dollar crisis as he does. Japan needs a stable dollar to work out the festering bad debts of its financial system, officially estimated at some $400 billion but possibly two or three times that.

These bad loans have hung like a storm cloud over the Japanese economy for four years, dampening new investment and sabotaging growth. For the last few weeks, Japan has been embroiled in a political crisis over the government's decision to liquidate seven bankrupt housing-loan companies that together managed to run up some $70 billion in uncollectable debt.

The widespread bashing of the Ministry of Finance by the Japanese media has helped the opponents of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and increased the pressure on the ministry's bureaucrats to get the bad debt problems behind them.

For that, a stable yen-dollar rate is absolutely essential, one in which the dollar is high enough to allow Japanese corporations to earn at least moderate profits on their exports so that they can service their debt.

Last April, the value of the dollar fell in a few frightening weeks from 100 yen to less than 80. No Japanese exporter could make money at that rate. It threatened to unravel the Finance Ministry's entire strategy for dealing with the bad debt.

It also threatened Mr. Clinton's re-election, because it signaled the possible end of the dollar's role as a global currency and with it America's ability to finance its national debt without economy-crushing interest-rate increases.

Thanks in part to an arrangement reached last June between the Clinton administration and the Ministry of Finance, the dollar rebounded against the yen and has been stable. Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin and his deputy, Lawrence H. Summers, agreed with Japanese officials to help prop up the dollar while the Japanese supported the U.S. bond market.

Since then, the ministry has taken several steps to boost Japanese investment in dollar securities, including allowing insurance companies and pension funds to hold more of their assets in foreign currencies.

For its part, the White House has called off the tough talk on trade and taken bold steps to shore up the dollar.

Not only is the pressure off Japan to open its economy further to American goods, but letting the dollar rise against the yen makes American goods less competitive against Japanese products. Once again, American jobs are sacrificed on the altar of a stable dollar.

Republicans can console themselves with the thought that Mr. Clinton's new allies are forcing him to govern like a Republican. Thanks to the debt run-up by Presidents Reagan and Bush, President Clinton has no alternative to putting the priorities of the debt holders in Japan ahead of those of working Americans.

The writer, a former investment banker who has lived in Japan for 15 years, is author of "The Weight of the Yen." He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

A Cogent Cuba Strategy Is Overdue

By Bernard Aronson

WASHINGTON — Those Americans who want to tighten the U.S. embargo on Cuba and those who want to loosen it offer competing policy prescriptions, but neither side explains how its policies would bring democracy to Cuba.

Fidel Castro hopes that Cuba, like China, will attract and benefit from foreign investment and trade while he maintains rigid political control, through repression where necessary.

Advocates of dropping the embargo need to convince skeptics why, in the case of Cuba, their policy would undermine the regime. Many Cuban-Americans fear that any appearance of weakening U.S. resolve would be manipulated by Mr. Castro to look like a triumph and thus would demoralize the internal opposition.

Those who argue for the "pressure cooker" approach — a tightened embargo and increased political isolation — never say exactly how this would eventually topple Mr. Castro and at what cost in lives and refugees. Would the Cuban people rise up? If so, how would the security forces respond?

Would there be a bloodless coup or a protracted civil conflict? If the latter, would Cuban-Americans be able to resist the demands of their heart to rush to Cuba by air and sea to fight for their country and kin? Would U.S. armed forces stop them or be dragged into a conflict inside Cuba on their behalf? And how long would it take a newly democratic Cuba to recover after such a traumatic transition?

Whether to try to influence and change repressive regimes through "isolation" or "engagement" is an old and honorable debate in foreign policy. Americans debated that question about the Soviet Union, Nicaragua and South Africa and continue to do so about China, Syria and Iran.

Many of those who advocate engagement with Cuba today argued for tough sanctions against South Africa. Toward Cuba, a bipartisan policy that combined the two approaches — isolating where necessary, engaging where useful — might be most effective.

The two sides might find common ground by agreeing to support Cuba's emerging but vulnerable civic opposition. In recent weeks, 150 democratic opposition groups in Cuba have come together under a new umbrella organization, Concilio Cubano. These groups need support and solidarity — contacts, invitations, resources — from their counterparts in the democracies to survive and grow in the face of severe government repression.

Both sides recognize that expanded telecommunications have helped empower the internal opposition by giving it direct access to the United States. Perhaps they could agree to expand humanitarian exemptions within the embargo to include fax machines, copiers and computers — the modern-day weapons of democratic revolutions — so long as such products were channeled through nongovernmental organizations such as the Cuban Catholic Church.

Over time, both sides in the current debate might come together behind confidence-building measures aimed at convincing the Cuban armed forces that they can tolerate, and perhaps support, a serious democratic opening without fearing that their country's security is threatened from outside.

To construct a bipartisan consensus toward Cuba will require a degree of leadership and statesmanship rare in American politics today, and usually entirely absent in a presidential election year. Still, as we enter the eighth U.S. presidential contest since Cuba emerged as a national issue, and as the Cuban people enter their 37th year of dictatorship, it is time to begin.

The writer was U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs from June 1989 to July 1993. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Same Ending in Taiwan Replay?

By Robert Elegant

HONG KONG — A divided government of China used its armed forces in 1958 to challenge Taiwan's rule of two offshore islands, Quemoy, in Xiamen harbor close to Chinese artillery emplacements, and Matsu, a few miles further out.

A weakened and divided government in Beijing is today using military measures to intimidate the voters of Taiwan ahead of the presidential election on Saturday, and to reassert its claim to Taiwan as an integral part of China.

As in 1958, China's Communist leaders are not motivated primarily by their desire for Taiwan. They are trying to reassert their diminished authority over China by taking a tough line on the "patriotic" issue of regaining Taiwan. Once again, the generals of the People's Liberation Army are exercising undue influence over the civilian leadership.

In 1958, Mao Zedong sought to reclaim his lost authority by taking Quemoy and Matsu. His position had been weakened by the failure of his Great Leap Forward and undermined by open opposition to his policies from the defense minister, who was the country's senior general.

This time, President Jiang Zemin's power has been shaken because the provinces virtually ignore his directions on economic and other matters. By threatening Taiwan, as the present defense minister has publicly demanded, Mr. Jiang is also placating the armed forces, whose bayonets keep him in office.

In 1958, the United States was a formal ally of Taiwan, and its Pacific fleet was decisive in resolving the conflict, largely in the Nationalists' favor. Today, America is assembling a powerful naval force, including two aircraft carriers, off Taiwan.

The United States maintains formal diplomatic relations with Beijing instead of Taipei and is no longer an ally of Taiwan. But the Taiwan Relations Act implies that the United States would not stand idly by if China were to use force to bring about reunification or impose a blockade.

In September 1958, I was aboard the Helena, flagship of the American naval force escorting Nationalist supply vessels to Quemoy. The tiny island was short of food and ammunition because those vessels had been unable to penetrate the barrages laid down by the Communists' artillery batteries. Washington calculated, correctly as it turned out, that the Chinese gunners would let the convoy through for fear of the consequences of hitting a U.S. warship.

Two diplomatic actions resolved the 1958 crisis.

Nikita Khrushchev announced that the Soviet Union would come to China's aid, as it was bound to do by treaty, if the mainland were attacked. But he indicated plainly that Moscow would not step in if China attacked Quemoy.

And John Foster Dulles, the U.S. Secretary of State, flew to Taiwan to wring a promise from Chiang Kai-shek: The Nationalists would not use force to gain their paramount objective, reconquering the mainland, which they had lost to the Communists in 1949 at the end of the civil war.

This time around, it should be clear to China that the United States, Japan and the rest of Asia could not accept a blockade of Taiwan, an attempt to snatch it back by force or the closure of the Taiwan Strait to international shipping. America and the trade-dependent nations of Asia know that freedom of the seas is maintaining the stability that has allowed East Asia to become the most dynamic region of the world in manufacturing and commerce.

China, a major beneficiary of this stability and growth, should understand what is at stake. Sadly, the present government is not as predictable as Mao's regime, which talked tough but backed down in the face of superior force.

The present Chinese leadership is pragmatically dedicated to staying in power by increasing the people's wealth. Yet frightened men might react violently to interference with their nationalistic purposes.

The writer, a former Asia correspondent and author of "Pacific Destiny," contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Up the Nile

CAIRO — The Anglo-Egyptian military excursion up the Nile has thrown Cairo into a high fever. The theory of those who claim to understand the situation is that England proposes to evacuate Egypt by the back door. By taking possession of Dongola she will carry on a vigorous campaign in the autumn in the Soudan; and once in possession of that rich trading seat and in control of the Upper Nile and the Red Sea littoral, it will be a matter of small concern to her what goes on in Cairo and Alexandria.

1921: Silesians to Vote

KATTOWITZ — The most important plebiscite provided for by the Versailles Treaty, by which the province of Upper Silesia on the Polish frontier is to manifest its preference of nationality, will be held to-morrow [March 20]. The stream of more than 100,000 non-resident Silesians to the home towns is now almost finished. All indications point to a close vote by which the Germans expect to carry the entire province with about 60 per cent. The peasants are expected to vote Polish.

1946: U.S. Ration Call

ATLANTIC CITY — Re-establishment of war-time food rationing in the United States was urged today [March 19] by Herbert Lehman, retiring director of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Mr. Lehman, in a report to the UNRRA policy committee, said: "I realize that rationing is extremely unpopular, but voluntary measures alone are not enough." "There will be barely half enough food to go around for the next year," he added, "and many millions must go hungry, many will starve."

OPINION/LETTERS

The 'Shining City' Plans To Slam Shut the Gate

By A.M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK — In the years I lived and worked abroad as a correspondent, I came to know men and women who seemed to me the best Americans I had ever met. Within them was the conviction that what America stood for was what they ached for — the chance to achieve whatever lay within their talents and energy, in a free society. The phrase needed no definition.

They believed that America, above all countries in history, could have an influence for good beyond its borders. Not always, but often enough to justify democratic idealism, they were right.

None of these people had ever set foot in the United States. I met them in every one of the countries from which I reported — intellectuals in Asia, freedom fighters in Eastern Europe, students in Africa. For me, they were "foreigners" in citizenship but countrymen in belief.

Soon I understood that this vision of an America in which foreigners had a stake was not just something America gave to them, but a richness they gave to us Americans — a sweet stream of strength and nourishment.

Most of my foreign Americans did not want to migrate to America. That is the "hordes" fantasy so dear to those who fear the outsider, usually because of their own inadequacies. What my friends hoped was simply that the existence and example of the United States might someday make their own countries more livable.

Among those I met who did want to migrate to America, nobody thought that it was a wide-open country but an attainable goal if they wanted it enough to leave their countries, create a new life for themselves and, in time, for families left behind. America assured them that yes, it was reasonable. So it has been during the lives of most — born or arrived — now living in the United States.

If Americans do not pay attention, in the next few weeks that will change. Before both houses of Congress are bills that if passed as introduced will cut legal admission to the United States by about 40 percent, eliminate whole categories of family members eligible for entry, remove aid benefits and make asylum impossible for many who have come to America seeking succor from terror and torture.

This immigration legislation, the most sweeping and abrasive in 70 years, will make the United States a lesser country economically. It will reduce the flow of talented foreigners who have been responsible for creating whole American industries. It will turn away the kind of people whose crafts and brawn have empowered America.

Intellectually, idealistically and spiritually, the legislation will be for America an agent of desiccation. Particularly unpleasant has been the campaign to persuade Americans that there's not much difference between illegal and legal immigrants.

But in one important way, the struggle has been revealing and inspiring. Leading the fight to separate illegal and legal immigration and preserve a decent legal-immigration policy are some important conservative Republicans. Pro-immigration Democrats did not get much help from conservative Democrats — nor much passion from the administration.

So, for breaking the mold of mean-spirited, nativist conservatism that the Buchanans of America create, Americans should thank such conservatives outside government as former Senator Malcolm Wallop, Jack Kemp and William Bennett. Also: Stuart Anderson of the conservative Cato Institute, whose report on immigrant contribution to American high technology was published by the conservative organization Empower America, (202) 452-8200.

In the Senate, Spencer Abraham, a first-term Republican, has shown leadership and courage that make him a much-admired advertisement for the state of Michigan.

One of the articles he co-wrote recalls President Ronald Reagan's final address to the nation. President Reagan said that he had often spoken of the "shining city" of America and that in his mind he saw it "teeming with people of all kinds living in peace and harmony."

"And if there had to be city walls," said Mr. Reagan, "the walls had doors and the doors were open to anyone with the will and heart to get here. That's how I saw it and see it still."

The New York Times.

A Paradise Lost: Tehran in the Springtime of Before

By Nina Ingwersen

GENEVA — The Tehran I knew is not the Tehran of today. Not because of the usual innocent childhood illusions or distortions, but because of harsh political developments. But I'll remember the good times.

Because of its dry climate and altitude of almost 1,200 meters, Tehran had four perfect seasons, almost like Camelot. Bordered on its north by the majestic Elburz range, its highest peak, Damavand, taller than Mont Blanc, winters were often snowy wonderlands with bright sunshine.

Summers were hot but dry, with stars that sparkled like jewels in the cooler evenings, when Tehranis drove up to the green suburb of Shemran. Strolling there in groups of families and friends, they would check out the other well-dressed natives. No chadors for the bourgeoisie in those days; those coverings were for the villagers or the religious fanatics or the lower classes. You could choose what you wore, what you drank, what you saw on TV or read and the music you listened to. In those days.

On the stroll beneath the plane trees, vendors sold all types of goodies along the *jubes*, or ditches, that carried the mountain waters to the cisterns under each home. There were neat mounds of fresh, tender walnuts, hulled and skinned. There were crunchy, tart green baby almonds, ready to eat with a pinch of salt. There was the Persian ice cream that smelled of safran and rosewater. And there were the delectable thin liver kebabs on skewers and barbecued corn on the cob that was dipped into salt water.

But you did not go out in the midday sun. Iranians have too much sun and consider it the enemy. You kept cool in the house, with the fans going full blast and lots of ice-cold *sharbats* — juice concentrates from pomegranates or sour cherries. There were also icy scraped melons and fresh-squeezed lime juice with lots of sugar. A typical lunch would be a wonderful meal of rice with a vegetable or lamb stew (*khoreshe*); cool yogurt with

MEANWHILE

chopped cucumber, dill, mint, raisins and walnuts, and a fresh salad of tomato, onion and cucumber.

After a nap, you waited until the sun went down. The stone terrace was then sprayed so the heat would evaporate. When it had cooled, you sat in the garden under the willow trees in the growing dusk and friends would come by.

If it was terribly hot, the movies had open-air rooftop theaters, and when they went home, whole families slept al-fresco — on wooden beds with mosquito nets — in the garden or on the flat roofs of their houses. There was no rain from June to September.

On the south side of Tehran was the desert. Not like the Sahara, sandy and pure and undulating, but a barren plateau that stretched southward toward Esfahan and farther on to Shiraz and the remains of Persepolis, and then on to the Gulf and real heat. Beyond the mountains to our north was the Caspian Sea and its lush tea plantations, palms, orange groves and golden-green rice fields, soft dark sands and the best caviar in the world.

Autumn was dusty, often windy, and felt scratchy in your throat.

Spring brought the Persian New Year — *NoRouz* — chiming in on the exact second of the equinox, the most logical and brightest of all new years. With the sunny bursts of forsythia along the streets and the pale green shoots of the willows, life was reborn once again. Spring cleaning and the buying of new clothes — from head to foot and for the whole household, including the domestics — were part of the rituals. There was also the growing of green shoots from wheat or lentils for the *Haft Seen*, the ceremonial table that held seven or more items starting with a Persian "S," including goldfish and lit candles and mirrors to reflect their glow. It all stood for the bounty and renewal of life.

There was a special evening of jumping over small bonfires to cleanse oneself of last year's sins, according to the ancient Zoroastrian religion. There was also the giving of gold coins or brand new money to the younger members of one's family or the less fortunate. And visits to friends and relatives, in order of age and standing, for tea and NoRouz sweets.

On the 13th day after NoRouz came *Sizdeh Bedar*, when the whole country went on a picnic to get away from bad luck indoors. Everyone sat on carpets by a stream somewhere, with pots of aromatic food, and games and music and laughter.

What else do I remember of my hometown? There must be some sour points in my memories, or they will all seem made up. Ah, yes, there was the traffic. Horrendous, probably the worst in the world. The bureaucracy was hopeless, much as in Italy, though not quite as bad.

And the earth was a bit too dry, but the well-tended gardens behind high walls were all that much greener and more welcoming. Plus there were those wonderful swimming pools, kept meticulous by the gardeners. And the picnics and the garden parties, for there was so little rain and such balmy evenings.

What happened to the negative points? Yes, there were poor people; the servants and the badly paid laborers and exploited villagers. Their poverty was a condition that is the curse of all Third World countries, but no one was dying of hunger and few were without work.

Yes, there was corruption and the repression of revolutionaries — also afflictions of developing countries — but the situation is far worse today. At least then the ordinary citizen was free to live his own life in security. The women were the most advanced in the region, many of them teachers, doctors, lawyers and managers, responsible for their own lives and decisions.

I am proud to be Persian, to be Iranian. Both terms are correct, both good. But I don't think I want to go back as long as Iran is run by those narrow-minded, all-forbidding fanatics. I refuse to cover my head. I have nothing to be ashamed of, nothing to conceal with a dark, heavy cloth.

I don't have to go back, because my close family is out of the country, as are so many other good people. We might get it back some day in a saner form. *Enshallah.*

The writer, a Geneva-based journalist who writes about film, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Europe and China

Regarding "America's China Policy" (Editorial, March 18):

The editorial says that current events in the Taiwan Strait may mark the start of a long-term Chinese turn to belligerence. And when Walter Lippmann was asked before he died in 1974 what would be the worst possible catastrophe to befall the world, his reply was short and to the point: China on the loose.

So now comes President Bill Clinton's first global nuclear test. We had all better hope he gets it right.

And by the way, where is Europe in all this? Salivating over the possibilities the Chinese market will present if the U.S. Congress does not renew China's most-favored-nation status? And the vaunted European common security and defense policy? Or is the situation, as Neville Chamberlain said about another in 1938, "a quarrel in a far-away country between people of whom we know nothing"?

Will Europe never learn?

FRANK PEEL.
Geneva.

Class Pictures

Last Wednesday evening I got out my first class photo and looked at the somewhat faded rows of happy little boys and girls. Who are they compared to the class photo you've seen this last week on the front pages of newspapers, where the smiles are fixed for eternity?

The children in my picture are the pupils of Primary One at Dunblane Junior Secondary, as it was called 30 years ago.

More importantly, they could be the parents, the aunts, the uncles, the cousins and the friends of the children killed and wounded in last Wednesday's massacre in Scotland. Certainly they will all know at least one heartbroken family in Dunblane.

In my photo, that's Janet sitting on the far left of the front row. Janet who was interviewed on the BBC World Service and heard by my sister in Borneo. Janet who is the aunt of the little girl in glasses being comforted by her mother in another photograph printed extensively in the press.

Thirty years ago, I was in Mrs. Currie's Primary One class. We, too, had phys ed classes in the gym. I live in Paris now, but my parents still live in Dunblane, as do many of my former schoolmates. On Wednesday afternoon, my father took tea to a policeman cordoning off one of the streets leading to the school. My mother was comforting a friend who was waiting to know the fate of her grandson — he was not in the ill-fated class, it turned out.

On Thursday morning, my friend Lorna, who often waves to my parents as she walks past taking her little boy to school, stopped to give them the most welcome wave they could hope for — she had her son with her, safe and sound.

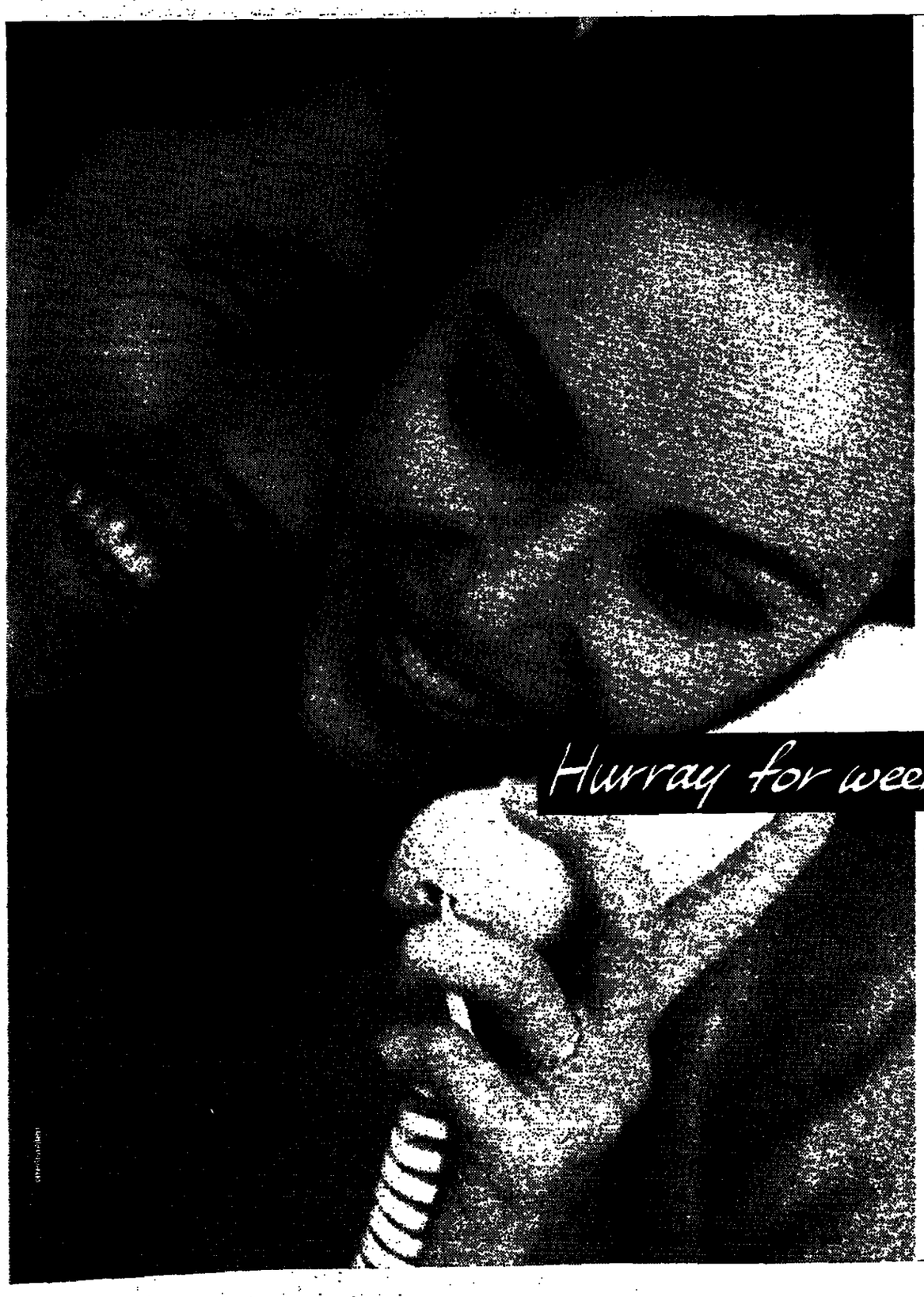
That's the way it is in Dunblane. Nothing can bring back loved ones lost, and a community's heart is breaking. Yet the community's spirit wills it to survive.

ANNE WOOLLEY EYRIES.
Paris.

Fresh Air

With *"A Breath of Fresh Eire: Buchanan's Not Green" (Opinion, March 1)*, Maureen Dowd surely earns the gratitude of innumerable Irish-American Catholics who wish to distance themselves from the un-Christian attitudes of Pat Buchanan, whom she exposes as not only bigoted toward his "fellow immigrants," as FDR would have said, but also apparently open to deception about just who these fellow immigrants are.

CLARE M. MURPHY.
Angers, France.



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INTERNATIONAL

U.S. Condemns Duma Vote Backing a Soviet Revival

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

KIEV, Ukraine — Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher, in his third meeting with President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine in six weeks, lashed out Tuesday at Russia's lower house of Parliament for adopting a nonbinding resolution declaring the dissolution of the Soviet Union illegal.

In the sharpest comments yet by an American official about the growing imperialist mood of a Parliament now dominated by Communists and nationalists, Mr. Christopher called last Friday's vote "highly irresponsible."

"It was as disturbing to us as I know it was to Ukraine," Mr. Christopher said. "President Kuchma was correct when he said that the tide of history cannot be turned back. Ukraine and other countries of the former Soviet Union are independent and sovereign nations. Any unilateral attempt to change their status should be rejected by the international community."

President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia himself called the vote "scandalous," but Mr. Yeltsin is trailing badly in the polls to Communist Gennadi A. Zyuganov for June's presidential election.

An American official said that "it was important to be in Kiev before Moscow," where Mr. Christopher goes on Thursday.

"I wouldn't look at the vote as a totally benign statement," the official said. "It's part of the Communist Party platform, and I wouldn't put great stock in the voluntary aspect."

Other American officials said they did not make too much of what was a vote in the middle of a Russian political campaign. But they said Mr. Christopher wanted "to put down marks early" that anything other than a totally voluntary reassociation of former Soviet republics with Russia would be unacceptable to the United States.

The vote in the Duma, the lower house, "had a certain quality of intimidation," Mr. Christopher said later, "and it seemed prudent to make known our views in advance."

A free and independent Ukraine, which currently gets $225 million a year in American aid compared to Russia's $100 million, is "a vital strategic interest of the United States," an official said. Mr. Kuchma, he said, had appealed for American help to support their sovereignty, even on relatively symbolic issues. For example, the Americans pushed the Russians to allow Mr. Kuchma to attend the summit on nuclear safety in Moscow next month at the invitation of the G-7 group of industrialized nations.

Mr. Christopher said the United States "supports Ukraine's growing ties to the West and European institutions, including Partnership for Peace," the association with NATO designed for countries who may want to join the alliance in the future.

While American officials say that Ukraine will not ask to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, because it won't be allowed to join, Mr. Christopher praised Ukraine's willingness to host NATO Partnership military exercises, including American troops, in Western Ukraine. The Ukrainians want a separate relationship with NATO like the Russian one, which is why they are so engaged in Partnership for Peace, local Western diplomats said.

Mr. Kuchma thanked Mr. Christopher, but spoke carefully, saying: "I think you understand that Ukraine requires political stability as never before."

While the Russian Duma vote was unimportant in legal terms, he said, it could not be neglected from "the social and political point of view." It will only drive East European countries "who have just declared their wish to join NATO to become more active in this respect."

Even the Russian foreign minister, Yevgeni M. Primakov, is known to think that the best way to push new states into NATO, contrary to Russian policy, is votes like the one in the Duma.

Mr. Christopher also announced that the United States would give Ukraine $10 million in medical aid and a mobile laboratory to monitor radiation on April 26, the 10th anniversary of the nuclear accident at the Chernobyl power station in Ukraine.

Mr. Christopher said the acvcident at Chernobyl "shows how interdependent we are, especially in the environment."

TV: *A Collision of Politics, Money and Culture Is on the Horizon for Europe*

Continued from Page 1

dia expert and the chairman of investment bank Wertheim Schroder, added that "the new television may well unify Europe in a way that hasn't taken place before."

What is likely, the experts agree, is that as European television companies join forces to save costs on the technology needed to beam shows into people's homes and on the making of programs, Europe will become increasingly unified. The languages may be different from country to country, but programming is becoming so similar that a number of producers are dubbing more programs or using the same format across borders, adopting shows mainly to take account for local cultural differences.

And Europeans could ultimately be unified by their shared enthusiasm for the two biggest draws on pay-TV — Hollywood movies and sporting events.

Mr. Kuhn and other experts believe that European integration will be speeded by the spread of new digital pay-television offerings, and by important regional players such as BSkyB, Bertelsmann, and Canal Plus.

These three companies, each a multibillion-dollar enterprise, joined with the French leisure group Havas to form a satellite pay-TV alliance earlier this month that has overnight set the stage for a major expansion of the industry. At present more than 15 million European pay-TV subscribers generate about $5 billion a year in revenues; but this is before the advent of digital television, which multiplies the number of channels available.

The new consortium aims to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on developing the technology for the decoder boxes that will be placed atop television sets to unscramble the satellite signal, and on new programming to fill hundreds of channels.

The Murdoch-Bertelsmann-Canal Plus alliance, which will begin operating in Germany, the biggest and juiciest of Europe's media and entertainment markets, caught such competitors as Compagnie Luxembourgeoise Pour la Télédiffusion, or CLT, and Leo Kirch in Germany off guard. Both must now reconsider their options.

When asked if his company was now talking about possibly forming a partnership with CLT, Gottfried Zmeck, an executive at the Kirch Group in Munich, said Tuesday: "We shall see. I wouldn't go as far as denying it."

Mr. Zmeck noted that the Kirch Group is already partners with Mr. Berlusconi in a satellite pay-TV venture called Telepiu in Italy.

All over Europe there will be political, cultural and commercial conflicts as dozens of new pay-TV channels are launched in the next year or two, and each instance will be a potential minefield.

Just Tuesday, a group of French television production companies attacked the alliance, caliming it was a "cartel" in Europe. And when the Bertelsmann-Murdoch-Canal Plus deal was unveiled, the EU's competition commissioner, Karel Van Miert, said he would examine it.

But Pierre Lescure, the chairman of Canal Plus, contended that the new alliance, by creating hundreds of new channels, would open opportunities for independent producers to provide programming.

"We are at the beginning of a new era in digital pay-TV," said Mr. Lescure, "and I hope that competition will eventually benefit the consumer."

Mr. Lescure acknowledged that change will not come easily, even in his own country, where the preservation of French culture is seen as a strategic goal.

"I am sometimes worried for French industry," he said. "We have to realize that we are not living in the 17th century anymore, with a fortress mentality."

Nearly all executives agree that one aspect of the debate that is unlikely to disappear soon is the resistance to American television shows and to Hollywood films that has led France to push for quotas, local content rules and other Europe-wide tools decried by critics as sheer protectionism.

President Jacques Chirac of France was said to have been so upset at the rumor a few months ago that Mr. Murdoch was negotiating a deal with CLT in Luxembourg that he made plain his views in private messages to a senior official in Luxembourg. An aide to Mr. Chirac on Tuesday night, who said he was familiar with the rumor, refused to comment.

In Germany, a more outspoken view was offered by Michael Dornemann, the senior Bertelsmann executive who has been spearheading efforts to join forces with Mr. Murdoch and Canal Plus. He vigorously rejected quotas.

"The biggest mistake is to fight the Americans," Mr. Dornemann said. "The better idea is to join them, and to build a European alliance with them inside our team. Their products are great. Everybody loves American movies and music. I think young people who like to watch American movies and listen to American music should be allowed to. I think we in Europe should be more relaxed about it."

NEXT: How the corporate battle for market share will shape Europe's television future.

Digital Television: What It Is, How It Works

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Digital television is a technology that resulted from research in the 1980s aimed at developing high-definition television pictures.

While digital television offers improved images and CD-quality sound, its main attraction in Europe's media market is its ability to compress as many as 10 separate channels into the same space that once was used to transmit a single channel.

As a result, the cost of broadcasting is significantly lower and the number of channels that will be offered to subscribers in just a few years is likely to multiply from a few dozen to a few hundred.

This is why digital television is seen as the key to developing pay-TV.

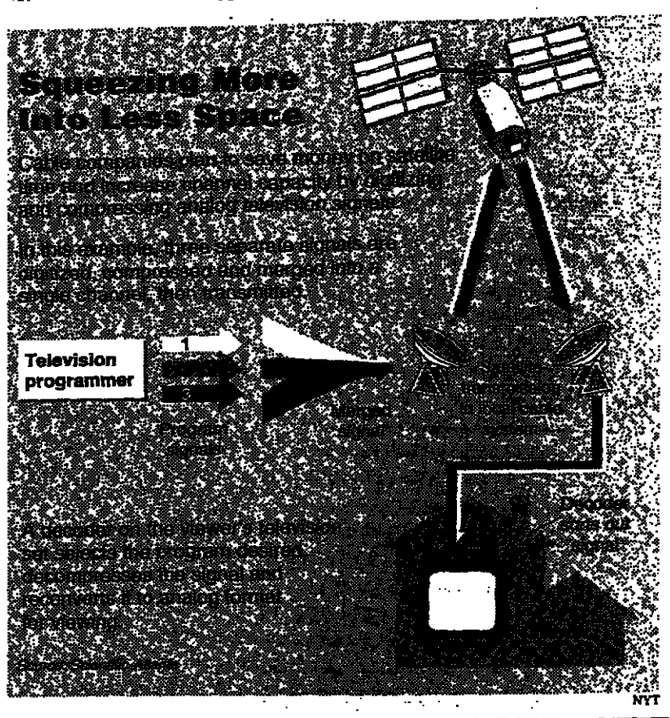
The idea behind the pay-TV plans is for satellites to make use of the digital technology and beam the new channels down to viewers. The home consumer will be able to watch the new pay-TV by buying a small satellite dish and putting it on a roof or out a window. Later, when cable transmission is upgraded from its present version to digital capacity, the consumer will be able to receive the television signal by cable. In both cases a decoder box, usually placed on top of the television set, will be needed to unscramble the signal.

Although the future is likely to see pay-TV offered in a home subscription package of channels, variations of pay-TV include the concept of pay-per-view on demand. This option, already found in many European cable offerings, allows the customer to order a one-time-only sporting event or movie, which then appears on a channel whose signal is normally scrambled.

Later, the pay-TV packages are expected to also provide access to services such as home shopping, home banking and the Internet.

Revenues will be generated mainly from subscriber fees paid for the service or by limited advertising, or a mix of the two.

— ALAN FRIEDMAN



GERMANY: *Kohl Warns Nation of New Taxes*

Continued from Page 1

that any tax increase at the present time would be "psychologically false for the economy."

That did not put to rest fears that a tax increase might go into effect next year, after a much-hoped-for rebound in the economy. Tax increases for 1997 would need to be proposed by this summer.

To many of Germany's long-suffering taxpayers, the government's no-tax-hike pledge has an unconvincing ring. The first "tax lie" came after East and West Germany reunited in 1990, when Mr. Kohl promised that taxes would not rise.

Since then, Bonn's politicians have raised just about every tax they could: the value-added tax, the wealth tax, the tobacco tax and the insurance premium tax. They lifted the gasoline tax twice, and they also introduced the 7.5 percent "solidarity surcharge" two different times on income tax.

Political observers, trade groups and economists concur that the fear of another tax increase has become widespread. Most are betting on an increase in either the nation's value-added tax or the gasoline tax.

Raising either of those taxes would only chill the German economy further, economists say. That would imperil any consumer-led recovery that German industry hopes will pull the economy out of its stupor, they said.

But Mr. Waigel might not have any choice. To appease the Free Democratic Party, which has staked its uncertain chances of keeping its seats in those three statehouses on a strident anti-tax platform, Mr. Waigel reluctantly agreed to cut the solidarity surcharge to 5.5 percent toward the middle of next year.

That will rip a hole of 4 billion Deutsche marks ($2.71 billion) in Bonn's tax income. Germany must fill that hole if it has any hope of meeting the deficit criteria for a single European currency by the 1997 deadline.

The situation has worsened further since the decision on cutting the surcharge. The economy shrank in the fourth quarter and unemployment has swollen to a postwar record, while tax income has plummeted and government outlays have risen.

Mr. Waigel refuses to concede how far the government might overshoot the deficit target until the annual review of tax projections in May, safely after the elections. Economists estimate that the deficit will be 14 billion DM deeper than planned.

BUDGET: *Key War Cry in Race for White House*

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Clinton laid the groundwork for the battle with a budget plan whose basic outline had long been known. And the Republican Congress has long rejected it for delaying the bulk of spending cuts until future years and being too sparing of the main entitlement programs.

Yet, if the program is dead on arrival in Congress, it is also a political document that allows Mr. Clinton to embrace the broad Republican goal of a balanced budget.

At the same time the president will make his campaign case that his particular mix of spending on education, training and technology programs, his tax cuts for families, and his recipe for reining in Medicare and Medicaid spending health insurance will best guide Americans into the technological age of the 21st century.

■ Deadlock Challenge From Clinton

In the formal budget proposal, Mr. Clinton challenged Republican leaders to finally break the deadlock over fiscal policy and strike a balanced-budget deal for the good of the country, The Associated Press reported from Washington.

The president's budget proposes a 4 percent increase in spending in a budget submission that mixes dry numbers with many of the president's re-election themes.

In his budget message, Mr. Clinton called on Congress to "balance the budget the right way" by cutting unnecessary programs while protecting "senior citizens, working families, children and other vulnerable Americans."

Republicans showed no signs of abandoning their own budget program, which offers twice as much in tax cuts. They attacked the proposal as a sham.

CHINA: *The New Nationalism Blends Maoism, Confucianism and Militarism*

Continued from Page 1

purely an internal matter. China's nationalist rhetoric and missile diplomacy are seen as endangering Asia's prosperity.

Singapore's senior minister, Lee Kwan Yew, an ethnic Chinese, has tried to calm the diplomatic waters by urging both China and Taiwan to put aside their differences. "After suffering so patiently for two centuries, the Chinese people and their leaders can surely afford to be patient a little longer," Mr. Lee said. "East Asia's high economic growth depends on continuing peace and stability."

But the new Chinese nationalists have other priorities. "You can't deny the Chinese nation," said a Communist Party official with close ties to top military leaders. "This isn't a question of what the party says. This is what the Chinese people say. There's not much to say about theory and international relations. That's just the way it is."

Many Communist Party leaders and theorists are looking to nationalism to serve as a crutch now that the pillars of Marxist ideology and class struggle have crumbled.

The Communist rulers have reshuffled icons in Tiananmen Square, itself symbolic of the mandate of heaven in imperial times. National day celebrations no longer include large portraits of Marx and Engels; instead, a giant portrait of the non-Communist Chinese nationalist Sun Yat Sen stands alone in the square.

"The previous ideology has gone into decline," said Xiao Gonggin, a professor at the Shanghai Normal University. "A large country such as China needs something to keep the country together. So nationalism is taking the place of the previous ideology as the coalescing force."

One obstacle to that strategy is that the definition of Chinese nationalism remains fuzzy. The country has at least 55 ethnic groups, dialects that cannot be understood from one part of the country to another, at least five major religions and a history subject to divergent interpretations.

An American political scientist, Lucian W. Pye, has written that Chinese nationalism lacks substance or common vision. Instead, it is fueled by a set of common enemies — imperialism, hegemonism and corrupting foreign influences. And that is what many people in Asia find unsettling.

A ranking government official who says he belongs to the Communist Party only because it is the best vehicle for his nationalist sentiments said, "China's nationalism is, We won't allow anyone to come and tear us apart. This is the deepest part of the Chinese soul."

The anti-foreign dimension is a product of Chinese history. For a century, starting in 1842, when British troops defeated the Qing emperor to defend the British-dominated opium trade, China struggled to rid itself of foreign imperial powers. In 1860, British troops marched into Beijing and burned the emperor's summer palace.

In 1900, anti-Westernism fueled the Boxer Rebellion and the slaughter of foreign missionaries and their converts. In the 1930s, Japanese forces invaded, occupied much of the country and massacred millions.

Huang Yasheng, a professor at the University of Michigan, said Chinese nationalism "evolved in the last 150 years or so mainly in reaction to the forcible opening by the West, and for that reason it can be virulent and almost always anti-Western."

What do all these conflicting sentiments mean? Will China seek territory or tribute from other parts of Asia?

Mr. Xiao says no. China, he says, lacks the messianic or utopian tradition of Europe that fueled Nazism, for example. He says China's Confucian tradition and relatively agnostic attitude would prevent its nationalism from becoming expansionist.

But others note that Japan in the 1930s was expansionist without the fire of religious fervor. And China has often extended its influence far from Beijing. Some scholars note that China already occupies most of the territory that was once the object of its imperialist ambitions, including the regions of Xinjiang and Tibet, making further expansion unnecessary or even risky.

SARAJEVO: *Hopes Fade for Multiethnic State*

Continued from Page 1

solution left," said Dragan Bozanic, a Bosnian Serbian official, speaking in Pale. "It is the only way people here can live together. No one is going to go home."

Senior Bosnian leaders and diplomats are trying to grapple with the long-term consequences of a Bosnia that is partitioned along ethnic lines. These officials fear that the partition will encourage minorities in Serbia, which is only 60 percent Serbian, as well as Macedonia and Bulgaria, to increase agitation for ministates of their own.

They are also concerned that if Bosnia becomes a Muslim ghetto in the middle of Europe it will turn increasingly to hard-line Islamic states, like Iran, for support.

"A Bosnia divided along ethnic lines will endanger peace in the region and Europe," said former Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic, in an interview Tuesday. "We may be looking at a bigger tragedy than this one."

There have been several indications over the last few weeks that the effort to create a multiethnic Bosnia was in trouble.

The Bosnian government kept Serbs and Croats out of Sarajevo's new ruling council, prompting the resignation of the city's mayor, Tarik Kupusovic. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees' pilot project, designed to return some 600 Muslim and Croat families to their old communities, remains unable to meet its tiny goal because of ethnic friction.

The Muslim-Croat federation is riddled with such dissention and distrust that it operates as two distinct and increasingly antagonistic entities.

The federation was even unable to field a joint police force to patrol the suburbs and neighborhoods that were handed over by the Serbs. And Muslim looters have been allowed to pillage abandoned Serb homes in the suburbs as Bosnian government police stood by impassively.

All of the current Muslim, Croat and Serb leaders, who use nationalism as the bedrock of their political platforms, are culpable, according to most diplomats and opposition leaders here. "What the architects of the Dayton peace plan failed to reckon with is that the Bosnian Serb, Croat and Muslim leaders, all want to govern small, ethnically pure empires," said a European ambassador. "They have all based their political platforms on ethnicity. It is not in their interests to dilute their power."

Mr. Silajdzic says that his own Muslim government failed to promote the goal of a multiethnic society. And he said such a failure boded ill for the future.

"The first attempt to kill a multiethnic Bosnia came from Belgrade and then Zagreb," said Mr. Silajdzic, now a leader of the opposition. "But lately, even in Bosnia-Herzegovina, there are people who obviously prefer a small feudal state, rather than a normal state."

HARASS: *Unfriendly Skies*

Continued from Page 1

Harassment and assault of United Airlines crew members increased from 54 cases in 1993 to 94 in 1995, according to the Association of Flight Attendants, a union that represents 39,000 flight attendants, most of them United and USAir employees. The union said it counted any incident that reached the point of interfering with an attendant's work.

A United spokesman, Richard Martin, disputed the union's figures but would not provide any of the airline's statistics. "We have not seen an increase in assaults," he said.

Officials at other airlines also said they had not recorded any significant increases in such cases, and the FBI said the number of passengers charged with interfering with flight crews dropped from 152 in 1993 to 135 last year.

But union officials contend that those numbers are low because the airlines have chosen not to report many cases that could have been prosecuted under federal law, which says no one may "assault, threaten, intimidate or interfere" with a crew member.

The unions say the airlines under report interference cases to avoid negative publicity and the legal expenses of having the charges prosecuted. Even when incidents are reported to the FBI, attendants say, the airlines usually want to settle them out of court.

Passengers who are prosecuted rarely are sent to jail. For first-time offenders, the law allows a maximum sentence of six months unless there is proof that the passenger recklessly or intentionally interfered with the safety of the aircraft.

Mr. Theriault pleaded guilty Nov. 28 to interference with a flight crew member and was sentenced to six months of unsupervised probation.

He could not be reached in Germany for comment, but his lawyer, Lance Gardner, said he snapped because of fatigue.

Muslim and Croat Held

New York Times Service

BONN — Authorities in Germany and Austria announced Tuesday that they had detained three men suspected of committing atrocities in the former Yugoslavia including, for the first time, a Bosnian Muslim and a Croat who are said to have murdered Bosnian Serbs.

The arrests seemed to be a breakthrough for war crimes tribunal in The Hague. A spokesman for tribunal said the arrests of the two men Monday in Munich and Vienna represented a major departure since the case was the first in the long process of indicting suspected war criminals in which the Bosnian Serbs had appeared as victims.

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Oi and Sakko, a Berlin Parable

By Paul Moor
International Herald Tribune

BERLIN — She calls herself *Oi. He calls* himself Sakko — a word that in Germany can mean a man's jacket. Oi means nothing — and *neither*, very much, do their lives in "Mercedes," a workshop co-production of Berlin's Konrad Wolf Film and Television Academy and the Berliner Ensemble founded by Bertolt Brecht.

Oi wears studiously ragdoll clothes that do the opposite of enhance whatever charm she might have, and superficially she seems content simply *and literally to kill time*, listlessly suspended in the kind of stasis Samuel Beckett trademarked in "Waiting for Godot." Sakko's daydreams focus on post-reunification Germany's No. 1 status symbol: the automobile that has given Thomas Brasch his experimental play's title. A nameless third character, also male and Oi's and Sakko's young contemporary, contributes as a sort of Greek chorus, an apparent component split off from Sakko's own stultified personality.

Germans east and west seem to agree on at least one thing: Decades, possibly generations, will have to pass before the psychosociological wall continuing to separate Ossi and Wessi goes the way of the physical wall breached on Nov. 9, 1989.

"Mercedes" had its world premiere in Zurich six years earlier, at a time when its author had fallen afoul of East Germany's political strictures, but the *dazed and muddled state of mind* besetting its young characters in fact typifies so many Germans, particularly young ones, today.

In "Mercedes" they simply hang out. One waits for sex to rear its head between a physically healthy young man and woman with so little else to occupy them, but it never really does. Oi's spiritual isolation (has she crossed the line *into actual whoring?*) shows when she intimately fondles one man while making chinchat with the other. At one point she casually shifts into the German equivalent of explicit four-letter words, but merely in passing. Their libidos seem curiously muted; by drugs?

Reclining on the ground, Oi augments her crimson lips with a brush, then her nails, all the while making apparently aimless small talk. She uses pieces of chalk to build little structures — until the chalk gets utilized to sketch, on floor and backdrop, the interior of an imaginary luxury vehicle 007 might have piloted in some James Bond story. Over everything hangs the kind of miasma Beckett condensed into 11 words: "I can't go on, you must go on, I'll go on" — in this instance, with negligible incentive.

Svea Petersen, Misel Maticevic and Andree Solvik, second-year students at the Konrad Wolf Hochschule, compose the capable cast; Petersen *stands* out precociously as the feckless waif Oi. Veit Schubert's staging seamlessly strings 16 compact scenes into a logical unbroken continuity.

The Berliner Ensemble — once uncontestedly the greatest repertory theater in the world — continues to struggle with the purgatorial period following Brecht's death in 1956. Several successive *managements* have come to more or less inglorious ends.

A worthy successor seemed to have emerged in Heiner Müller, but his recent death engendered, among Germany's literati and theatergoers, perhaps the vastest public mourning since Brecht's own.

LONDON THEATER

Stephen Sweet

The Reduced Shakespeare Company at the Criterion Theatre: The Bard, backward and forward.

After the War: Cost of Survival

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — John Misto's "The Shoe-Horn Sonata" (at the King's Head) is the story of two women reunited half a century after they last met in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp. We see far too few Australian plays over here, and those we do get are treated with a curious kind of patronage; my (admittedly limited) experience of theatergoing in Sydney would suggest that there are as many good new plays there now as there are coming out of New York, though this has yet to become a fashionable critical theory.

In this case we also get a story that really has to be told from that side of the world. One of these women (the splendid Maggie Kirkpatrick) is Australian and has saved the other (Susannah York, a *little young for the role of a* woman in her late 60s) from death at considerable cost to herself, such cost, we are asked to believe, that sheer embarrassment at the memory of it has kept them apart until now, when they come together in a radio studio to share their memories.

Dan Crawford's production does its best to disguise the fact that this might as well have been a radio play, but it is, at its best, the account of the cost of survival and of what women will do for each other.

The initials RSC do not always have to mean the Royal Shakespeare Company; they also stand for the Reduced *Shakespeare Company*, which you might initially think was the same thing, given the Royal's *determination* to pull out of the Barbican for six months of every year. But this RSC is altogether different; the Reduced Shakespeare Company is a trio of young American actors (Adam Long, Matthew Henderson and David Letwin) who promise us, at the Criterion, **"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)"** — 37 plays in 97 minutes. Not only do they deliver as promised, but with considerable inventive brilliance: "*Titus Andronicus*" thus becomes a cookery show ("Shakespeare in his Tarantino phase"), all 15 comedies become "Four Weddings and a Transvestite" complete with topical Hugh Grant gags, "Troilus and Cressida" for some reason involves a dancing gorilla, and "Hamlet" is, best of all, performed backward in less than 15 seconds.

Clearly this is not a show for Shakespearean purists, but during especially long Barbican or National or Stratford evenings of the Bard I have to confess to a certain *longing* for this other RSC which I first saw on tour a couple of years ago. What *they are doing is often close* to an undergraduate end-of-term romp, but it has been put

Reduced Shakespeare delivers on its promise

together with a real love and knowledge of the plays they are satirizing, and after all, Shakespeare can take it.

My only real concern is *their chosen space: More and* more now the West End is filling up with shows like this, which would be still more enjoyable seen over a cabaret table with a drink and maybe even a meal. With the honorable exception of the Mill theaters at Sonning and Newbury, this country has never understood the concept of dinner theater despite the fact that it has been going in America for more than half a century.

I make no apology for returning to the subject of Stephen *Sondheim's "Company"* only three months after this dazzling Sam Mendes production first opened at the Warehouse. It transferred this week to the Albery Theater with (mercifully) all its cast intact and, if such a thing be possible, even better than they were originally.

When it first opened back in 1972 it struck me as the first truly modern and innovative *musical since* "West Side Story" almost 20 years earlier.

"Company" was also the first truly triumphant concept musical: Built around a series of disconnected one-act plays by George Furth, it has no hit song, an ending of such true ambiguity that it could be happy or tragic, but no message of good cheer for its *audience. Instead, it remains* a bitter, cynical and deeply Manhattan look at the state of *modern matrimony* ("Marry me a little") which resolutely refuses to tug on any heartstrings ("Marriage may be where it's been, but it's not where it's at").

"Company" has all the warmth of a crossword puzzle and all the gentle charm of an electric carving knife. But technically it's as flawless as the Pan Am skyscraper — a brisk stunning show that is in its way as brilliant a dissection of marital disharmony as Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf." And *yet this is* the postwar Broadway musical I adore more than any other. *Mendes has made some* changes for 1996, including the introduction of one originally cut song and a greater emphasis on drugs and homosexuality and, more controversially, resetting the whole show as a dream sequence. But this remains a landmark musical of the century, and 25 years have in no way dimmed its revolutionary genius.

"Company" was the first *show to define what we now* truly mean by Sondheimesque; it is not a heavily danced musical, despite one breathtaking routine in Act Two, but the story of a thirty-something bachelor on his birthday, surrounded by eight unhappily married couples, all determined to marry him off, is not in the end as anti-marriage as it may seem. Two is very difficult, the show tells us, *but one is always worse.*

A Bomb to Blow Up Music World

By David Stevens
International Herald Tribune

LYON — When Edgard Varèse's "*Amériques*" *had its first* performance in 1926, with Leopold Stokowski conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra in the Academy of Music, the public reception was tumultmously negative.

The other evening in the Auditorium Maurice Ravel here, the Orchestre National de Lyon under Emmanuel Krivine wound up an exiting concert with "Amériques" — admittedly in the somewhat smaller-scale revised version. A few listeners headed for the door before it began, but the rest stayed to cheer, and for much longer than the obligatory couple of minutes.

This concert was one of a series, stretching over two months, in which the dozen completed compositions Varèse *left at his death slightly more than 30* years ago are all being performed, most of them more than once and in programs that include a wide range of other composers. The concerts are being given in Lyon as well as in a half-dozen communities in Burgundy — a handsome and intelligent tribute to a quasi-native son and one of the most original musical figures of the century.

Varèse considered himself an American composer, but he was born in Paris of Piedmontese-Burgundian parentage, and much of his early childhood was spent in Burgundy with maternal relatives. It influenced him deeply, and its closeness to nature and its solid Romanesque architecture is integral to his music. His first publicly performed work, *in Berlin in 1910, was called* "Bourgogne."

Varèse really had three careers, and *from his earliest years he befriended and* was befriended by outstanding artists, and not only musicians.

After passing quickly through the Schola Cantorum and the Paris Conservatoire, he went to Berlin, where he studied with the highly intellectual Busoni. Romain Rolland drew on Varèse's personality for one of his major characters, but also introduced him to Richard Strauss, who in turn used his *influence to get "Bourgogne" per*formed.

Career No. 2 began after he was invalided out of the wartime French Army. He went to the United States and immediately plunged into the contemporary music scene as creator and conductor. Almost all his completed works were composed between the early '20s and mid-'30s.

Career No. 3 came after World War II, when science caught up with him and the electronic devices he was waiting for. His "Déserts," when performed at the Théâtre des Champs-Elysées in 1954, produced the most uproarious *"scandale" in that theater since the* "Sacre du Printemps" in 1913. His last work, "Poème Electronique," provided the sonic element in Le Corbusier's Philips Pavilion at the Brussels world fair in 1958.

IANNIS Xenakis, the Greek-French architect-composer, worked on the Brussels project. Luigi Nono and Karlheinz Stockhausen were at Darmstadt in the one year he taught there (1950), to mention just three composers for whom he surely paved a way.

His artist friends were legion, beginning with Léger and Mondrian. Duchamp and Picabia were friends although he was no Dadaist, and likewise the Italian Futurists, although he was *not one of them either. Miró painted a* "Homage to Varèse" and Calder executed a brilliant portrait of him in twisted wire. He also painted himself, and this aspect is represented in the excellent exhibition in the Auditorium until April 5.

"Amériques" was his first composition in America, "symbolic of the discoveries of new worlds on earth, in space or in the human spirit." It was also "a bomb to blow up the musical world," with its vast array of brass and percussion, not to forget the famous siren *"of the type used by the New York City* Fire Dept." Everything earlier that had not been destroyed in a Berlin warehouse fire he destroyed himself, even "Bourgogne," in 1962 when in the clutch of one of his depressions.

Its performance in Lyon was explosive, although highly controlled by Krivine. It was preceded by Ravel's piano concertos, both of them, with Jean-Yves Thibaudet as the electrifying soloist, and by Stravinsky's "Firebird" suite. (Oddly enough, although he admired Stravinsky, he apparently *did not meet* him until 1960).

Not all of Varèse's "organized *sound" comes in huge packages,* "Density 21.5," a brief flute solo written in 1936 for a soloist with a platinum flute (21.5 is the specific gravity of platinum), and the energetic gaity of "Octandre," an octet for winds, brass and bass fiddle are also explorations in timbre, sonority, intensity and space. A concert of the current Musiques en Scène Festival put them together with like-minded works by Debussy, Berio and Sciarrino, and the whole was presented in a kind of staged concert — including spoken citations of Varèse — conceived by music students of the Université de Bourgogne.

Varèse *did not oppose the prevailing* musical aesthetic, he simply ignored it. His music is as highly organized as, say, Haydn's, but on different principles. He did not consider himself a revolutionary, or even avant-garde. The composer, he thought, was a reflection of his time, using the material of his time. It was the public that lagged behind, and now is catch-up time.

BOOKS

THE BRIDE OF TEXAS

By Josef Skvorecky. Translated from Czech by Kaca Polackova Henley. 436 pages. $27. Knopf.

Reviewed by
Donald McCaig

THE American Civil War *eats novelists.* Although hundreds of Civil War novels have been published, there is a scant handful of ordinarily good ones and only one undisputed masterpiece: Stephen Crane's "Red Badge of Courage." The raw facts of the war overwhelm fiction — what writer could have invented Abraham Lincoln or Robert E. Lee?

Many Union soldiers were immigrants. The *Irish Brigade* was famous, and refugees from the failed European revolt of 1848 filled Sigel's ranks at New Market and were swept away on Hooker's exposed right flank at Chancellorsville.

Josef Skvorecky's novel, "The Bride of Texas," tells about some of those immigrants. In 1992, when the novel was first published in Czech, its European admirers dubbed it "Skvorecky's New World Symphony." In English translation, however, it isn't that good.

"The Bride of Texas" has *an excess of characters* and subplots. But I gather that the core is the intertwined love stories of Cyril Toupelik, who is infatuated by Rosemary, a Texas planter's daughter, but who truly loves the slave Dinah, who has (Skvorecky never tires of telling us) skin the color of a tea rose; and Toupelik's sister Linda (sometimes Lida) who loves, first, Mica Vitek, then the one-legged *planter Etienne de Ribordeaux*, and finally weds Captain Baxter Warren 2d. The novel opens near war's end, as Sherman's army is burning Columbia, South Carolina, and continues through that army's final battle at Bentonville and a postwar aftermath in Chicago. Flashbacks (and flashbacks within flashbacks) tell about its characters in Europe and America before the war.

Betwixt battles and backstories Skvorecky offers "Writer's Intermezzos" that tell the life of Lorraine Tracy, who once jilted Union general-to-be Ambrose Burnside at the altar. Tracy is fond of Burnside, as is Skvorecky. In his lifetime, many people were fond of Burnside, though not, of course, the survivors of the thousands of men his blunders sent to their deaths at *Fredricksburg and the Crater.*

It's distressing that "The Bride of Texas" is so ungainly and unpleasant to read because Skvorecky is a good writer, sometimes a very good one. His history is accurate enough for fictional purposes, and though he doesn't capture the cadences of 19th-century American speech, he doesn't *commit many anachronisms* either.

Page by page, anecdote by anecdote, Skvorecky is a fine writer, but his structures betray his story. To explain the battle of Bentonville, he invents a fictional postwar historian. From flashback to flashback, it is difficult to keep track of his characters.

Doubtless Skvorecky understands the issues of the European rebellion that drove so many of his countrymen to America and the Union Army, *but he never bothers to tell us* much about them. His characters *know more than his* readers.

Near the end of "The Bride of Texas," the writer-character Laura Lee asks, "How in God's name was literature supposed to mirror life?" With more fidelity to the form and more courtesy to the reader — and for God's sake, shun the Civil War.

Donald McCaig, whose most recent book is "Eminent Dogs, Dangerous Men." wrote this for The Washington Post.

BEST SELLERS

New York Times
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

FICTION

This Week		Last Week	Wks. on List
1	PRIMARY COLORS, by Anonymous	1	6
2	THE HORSE WHISPERER, by Nicholas Evans	5	26
3	ABSOLUTE POWER, by David Baldacci	3	6
4	THE CELESTINE PROPHECY, by James Redfield	7	107
5	THE CAT WHO SAID CHEESE, by Lilian Jackson Braun	12	4
6	THAT CAMDEN SUMMER, by LaVyrle Spencer	2	6
7	GUILTY AS SIN, by Tami Hoag		2
8	AND THIS TOO SHALL PASS, by E. Lynn Harris	11	2
9	MCNALLY'S PUZZLE, by Lawrence Sanders		1
10	ROGUE WARRIOR: TASK FORCE BLUE, by Richard Marcinko and John Weisman	15	2
11	INTENSITY, by Dean Koontz	4	9
12	FIVE DAYS IN PARIS, by Danielle Steele	6	16
13	IN THE BEAUTY OF THE LILIES, by John Updike	9	4
14	CONTAGION, by Robin Cook	8	8
15	THE WEB, by Jonathan Kellerman	14	9

NONFICTION

1	RUSH LIMBAUGH IS A BIG FAT IDIOT, by Al Franken	1	7
2	IT TAKES A VILLAGE, by Hillary Rodham Clinton	2	8
3	HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?, by Laura Schlessinger	3	6
4	ENTER WHINING, by Fran Drescher	14	3
5	UNDAUNTED COURAGE, by Stephen E. Ambrose	5	2
6	EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, by Daniel Goleman	4	24
7	MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, by John Berendt	7	98
8	YOU'LL NEVER MAKE LOVE IN THIS TOWN AGAIN, by Robin, Liza, Linda, and Tiffany, as told to Jennie Louise Prankel, Terrie Maxine Prankel and Joanne Parrent	8	3
9	TIME PRESENT, TIME PAST, by Bill Bradley	6	6
10	THE ROAD AHEAD, by Bill Gates with Nathan Myhrvold and Peter Rinearson	9	15
11	LONGITUDE, by Dava Sobel	13	11
12	MISS AMERICA, by Howard Stern	12	17
13	MY POINT...AND DO I HAVE ONE, by Ellen DeGeneres	11	28
14	100 YEARS, 100 STORIES, by George Burns	10	5
15	CHARLES KURALT'S AMERICA, by Charles Kuralt	15	20

ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

1	MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, by John Gray	1	147
2	THE SEVEN SPIRITUAL LAWS OF SUCCESS, by Deepak Chopra	2	52
3	THE WAY OF THE WIZARD, by Deepak Chopra	3	9
4	THE ZONE, by Barry Sears with Bill Lawren	4	2

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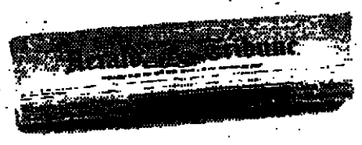

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Thursday

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Continued on Page 17

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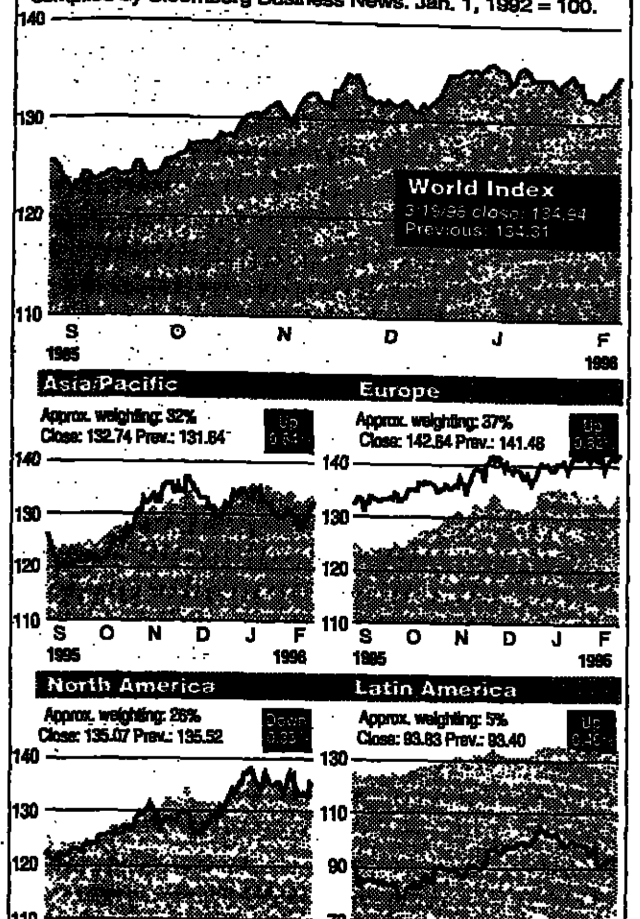
THE TRIB INDEX: 134.94

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index ©, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. *For Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top stocks are tracked.*

Industrial Sectors

	Tue. close	Prev. close	% change		Tue. close	Prev. close	% change
Energy	139.90	138.00	+1.38	Capital Goods	144.95	144.71	+0.17
Utilities	125.67	125.21	+0.37	Raw Materials	159.10	157.96	+0.72
Finance	124.30	123.42	+0.71	Consumer Goods	140.81	140.88	−0.05
Services	122.73	122.32	+0.34	Miscellaneous	138.44	136.81	+1.19

For more information about the Index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.

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Bayer '96: Record Net, Fewer Jobs

German Giant Sees Need for More Cuts

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LEVERKUSEN, Germany — Bayer AG said Tuesday it expected to post record pretax profit for 1996, but it said the need for further cost reduction would cause it to cut about 1,500 jobs in Germany this year.

Bayer's chairman, Manfred Schneider, said the chemicals and pharmaceutical company expected 1996 pretax profit to rise 10 percent from record 1995 levels and sales to rise 6 percent.

Bayer, still best-known for the aspirin it introduced to the market 97 years ago, said business was strong in the first two months of 1996, with earnings up more than 10 percent from a year earlier.

Sales were up 7 percent despite an economic slowdown in Germany and the rest of Europe, the company said.

"That gives us confidence," Mr. Schneider said. "Though it is obviously too early to draw any conclusions as a whole, we certainly intend to continue last year's strong performance."

Bayer had sales in 1995 of 44.6 billion Deutsche marks ($30.3 billion). Pretax profit rose 27 percent, to 4.2 billion DM, passing the record of 4.1 billion DM set in 1989.

The results prompted Bayer to raise its dividend 2 DM, to 15 DM a share, putting the total payout at more than 1 billion DM for the first time in company history.

Last year, Bayer cut 3,800 jobs, including 3,300 in Germany, to bring its work force to 142,900. The new cuts will come with unemployment in Germany at a postwar high.

Mr. Schneider acknowledged that the job cuts in Germany might seem puzzling in the context of the strong earnings forecast. But he said further restructuring was necessary, particularly after a below-average profit in the chemicals unit.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AP)

Arms Makers Look To Latin America

Air Show Attracts Big Guns

By Calvin Sims
New York Times Service

SANTIAGO — With hundreds of billions of dollars being spent each year on armaments worldwide, Latin America has not been among the big buyers, largely because of its weak economies and a U.S. policy that restricts sales of high-technology military gear.

But recent cutbacks in spending by major industrialized nations have forced military contractors to chase whatever business they can get, and developing countries with newly stabilized economies like those in Latin America have increasingly become the new target customers.

Perhaps that explains why so many secretaries of defense, generals and weapons contractors from around the globe participated in Chile's 1996 International Air and Space Show last week.

The event was without question the largest display of military technology ever staged in Latin America.

As advanced jet fighters, bombers and transport planes performed skillful maneuvers in the sky above, contractors and vendors demonstrated helicopter gunships, tanks, hand grenades, radar systems, machine guns and rocket launchers.

A total of 400 companies from 43 countries participated in the show, seeking a share of the estimated $2 billion of weapons sold to Latin America last year. The U.S. Defense Department estimates that between 1994 and 2000, Latin American countries will spend between $3.6 billion to $5.2 billion annually, or about 3 percent of worldwide sales.

Industry analysts and executives said that such a big turnout for a relatively small market illustrated how desperate weapons dealers had become. But it also showed growing optimism that Latin America would become a major arms market as its economies continued to grow and countries replaced outdated equipment.

The analysts said Latin America's three richest nations — Brazil, Chile and Argentina — would be the region's biggest spenders on weapons, shopping for improvements in their equipment as they seek to maintain se-

See ARMS, Page 16

Prince and Singer Create a Kingdom For Family Fun

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

PARIS — The American pop star Michael Jackson and Prince Waleed ibn Talal, a Saudi investor, announced Tuesday the launching of a show-business venture designed to promote "family values" throughout the world.

The two friends, who began talks for the project when they met 18 months ago at Disneyland Paris, said at a news conference they intended to develop films, concerts, theme parks, hotels, restaurants, television programs and comic books that would respond to a yearning for global family entertainment.

The partnership, known as Kingdom Entertainment, was described by Mr. Jackson as "a long-awaited dream come true."

He said he had discovered during the course of his relationship with King Fahd's nephew, whose holdings are estimated to be worth $10 billion, somebody who shared his goals and strategies "for the development of a total integrated global entertainment complex."

Prince Waleed, whose net worth is more than twice that of his partner, owns a nearly 25 percent stake in Euro Disney SCA. He is also the biggest shareholder in Citicorp.

"The prince and myself will combine human and financial resources to be successful in all phases of the multimedia revolution," Mr. Jackson said.

Other activities they planned to pursue included animation, character licensing, merchandising, television programming and multimedia activities.

An adviser to the prince and a director in the venture, Khalid Mansour, said the venture — in which Mr. Jackson and Prince Waleed will have equal stakes — would start operations by sponsoring Mr. Jackson's next international concert tour.

The venture is to establish offices in the United States, Europe and Asia and unveil a series of major initiatives within 60 days.

Mr. Mansour brushed off suggestions that the singer's troubled marriage and alleged consorting with boys would make him a dubious defender of family values.

He said the prince had conducted "exhaustive studies" into Mr. Jackson's past and concluded he had been the victim of "very unfair and very unfortunate rumors."

Activist U.S. Fund Sharpens Its Global Aim

Bloomberg Business News

SACRAMENTO, California — The $97 billion California Public Employees' Retirement System, which has helped shake up U.S. companies from American Express Co. to General Motors Corp., will be taking its shareholder activism overseas.

The board of the largest U.S. public pension fund approved a plan for a so-called corporate-governance program in Japan, Britain, France and Germany, where the fund has almost 62 percent of its international investments.

A fund official said the hope was that methods proven effective in the United States also would work abroad as the fund moved to raise international stock investments to 20 percent from 12 percent of its assets. "The international corporate governance policies have the potential to produce significant benefits because the inefficiencies of the international market are greater than those of the domestic market," Jose Arau, principal investment officer at the fund, said in a study presented to the investment committee.

As part of the program, the fund will outline different goals for each market.

German companies, for example, might be asked to see that each share in a company represents one vote.

"It's a positive step," said Bruce Babcock, director of global research at Institutional Shareholder Services, which consults investors on proxy voting. The activist fund's plans should "make foreign companies aware of the existence of shareholder concerns," he said.

The fund said previously that its actions would include sending letters to companies when it votes against a management proxy proposal, explaining its reasons for doing so and publicizing its votes against board members at companies where performance is not improving.

Non-U.S. companies, as a rule, have been less worried than their U.S. counterparts about placating unhappy shareholders, and their holders in turn are not known for pressuring companies to improve performance.

MEDIA MARKETS

Radio Takes a Digital Turn

By Richard Covington
Special to the Herald Tribune

CANNES — "Turn left onto Easy Street, an alternative route to the A1, which is blocked," your car radio commands.

Gliding down Easy Street, you enter a tunnel. The Bach concerto continues to play without any fading or distortion. Push a button, and the title and the name of the soloist appear on the screen of the radio, followed by a photograph of the album cover. Push another button, and a map showing traffic congestion appears on the windshield. Push another and read or listen to your electronic mail. Welcome to the future of digital audio broadcasting.

One hundred years after the invention of radio, the oldest electronic medium still has a few tricks up its sleeve. The advent of digital audio broadcasting, a profusion of narrowly targeted satellite channels and the exploitation of Internet tie-ins all promise to pump new life into the medium.

Radio stations from Boston to Johannesburg are signing on advertisers attracted by their promotional sites on the World Wide Web. "The Web site represents an added value for our clients," said Maureen Rivers, a consultant for KISS 108, a radio station in Boston. "Besides, if we were not on the Internet, we would start to lose listeners."

Satellite-delivered stations beamed directly into homes are proliferating, generating programming devoted to one style of music, or even a single composer. Last month, for example, CanalSatellite, a subsidiary of the French pay-television network Canal Plus SA, launched a bouquet of 20 stations, of which three will be devoted to classical music and one to jazz; another will be all blues, and another will be for children.

Germany, France and Britain have begun pilot tests of digital audio broadcasting, a quantum leap for radio that is expected to deliver near-perfect sound as well as text and images. Using a radio connected to a computer, listeners could eventually call up biographies and lyric sheets accompanying a piece of music, or summon photos and demonstration videos to illustrate a radio program on gardening.

In the French test, Radio France and the publishing concern Matra-Hachette SA offer city guides on the display screens of radios that indicate locations of parking lots, hotels and hospitals. It takes two seconds to download a page of text and half a minute for a still photograph.

"By the year 2000, radio will be used to distribute not just sound, but software and even home movies. DAB will bring multimedia to the masses, perhaps more quickly than computers," predicted Thomas Waechter, assistant director for Deutsche Telekom AG.

Deutsche Telekom is sponsoring tests of the system in Germany and cooperating with the electronics manufacturer Bosch-Blaupunkt AG to make the digital audio broadcasting receivers. Grundig AG and Philips Electronics NV also manufacture receivers, and Sony Corp., Mitsubishi Electric Corp. and Pioneer Electronic Corp. have models in the development stage.

Digital audio broadcasting signals come

See RADIO, Page 16

Names Win Another Lloyd's Suit

Agence France-Presse

LONDON — More than 1,000 Names, individuals who underwrite the Lloyd's of London insurance market with their personal assets, won a legal battle Tuesday to receive compensation for huge losses suffered because of mismanagement by Lloyd's agents.

A High Court judge ruled that members of the Rose Thomson Young syndicate should receive damages to restore them to the financial position they would have held if their funds had been handled properly from 1988 to 1989.

They faced insurance claims of £450 million ($689.6 million) after a series of disasters, including Hurricane Hugo in the Gulf of Mexico and the Piper Alpha oil-rig explosion in the North Sea.

The judge said the syndicate's underwriter had done his "incompetent best but fell well below the standards" of a Lloyd's specialist.

Tuesday's victory is the latest in a series of lawsuits by Names claiming that negligence by Lloyd's agents had caused huge losses for investors. Between 1988 and 1992, Lloyd's ran up record losses of £8 billion after a series of global disasters.

Exceptional service demands personal attention as well as genuine concern for the financial well-being of our clients.

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It is a simple principle upon which we base our brand of financial conservatism: private banking built upon rigor, discipline and prudence. This sophisticated conservatism, vigorously pursued, has created a global

Headquarters of Republic National Bank (Suisse) in Geneva.

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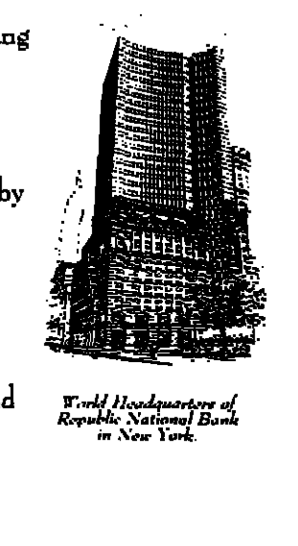

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates — March 19

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl.	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.6535	2.5325	1.1192	0.3273	0.1061*	—	5.446*	1.3823	1.5535*	1.2155	1.3285*
Brussels	30.415	46.465	20.555	6.012	1.9424*	18.36	—	25.3025	0.286	22.26	24.47*
Frankfurt	1.4799	2.2637	—	0.2935	0.9481*	0.8936	4.8659*	1.2389	1.3923*	1.0903	1.1885*
London (a)	1.539	—	2.2635	7.7324	2,390.28	2.5324	46.5395	1.8266	163.06	2.0826	190.355
Madrid					Closed*						
Milan	1,562.30	2,392.90	1,057.05	309.15	—	945.40	51.435	1,380.83	14.69	1,152.10	12.507
New York (b)	—	1.5338	1.4735	5.0375	1,559.08	1.649	30.97	1.1902	106.175	1.3587	123.945
Paris	5.509	7.7395	3.4103	—	0.3242*	3.0544	0.1663	4.2342	4.7556*	3.7254	4.0665*
Tokyo	106.38	160.45	71.98	21.03	0.681	64.16	3.487	89.01	—	78.15	0.8545
Toronto	1.3590	2.0945	0.9222	0.2698	0.0872*	0.8238	0.4489*	1.1424	1.2798*	—	1.096*
Zurich	1.1917	1.8257	0.807	0.2387	0.0764*	0.7288	3.9248*	—	1.1208*	0.8865	0.9589*
1 ECU	1.2584	0.8373	1.8853	6.4085	1,998.75	2.1211	38.9525	1.53	136.23	1.7381	159.344
1 SDR	1.451	0.9546	2.161	7.3914	2,280.38	2.4199	44.3788	1.7427	154.942	1.9854	181.54

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	1.00	Greek drac.	241.58	Mex. peso	7.5225	S. Afr. rand	3.928
Australian $	1.2937	Hong Kong $	7.7311	N. Zealand $	1.4693	S. Kor. won	781.60
Austrian sch.	10.398	Hung. forint	145.82	Norw. krone	6.4355	Swed. krona	6.7232
Brazil real	0.9875	Indian rupee	36.50	Phil. peso	26.18	Taiwan $	27.31
Chinese yuan	8.3527	Indo. rupiah	2333.75	Polish zloty	2.57	Thai baht	25.24
Czech koruna	27.20	Irish £	0.6348	Port. escudo	152.87	Turkish lira	68657.
Danish krone	5.717	Israeli shek.	3.0895	Russ ruble	4835.0	UAE dirham	3.671
Egypt. pound	3.3939	Kuw. dinar	0.299	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. boliv.	538.00
Fin. markka	4.6285	Malay. ring.	2.544	Sing. $	1.407		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5292	1.5284	1.5276	Japanese yen	105.92	105.49	105.02
Canadian dollar	1.3586	1.3589	1.3590	Swiss franc	1.1903	1.1869	1.1833
Deutsche mark	1.4763	1.4739	1.4714				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Agence France-Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

Eurocurrency Deposits — March 19

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	1 3/4 - 1 7/8	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	4 - 4 1/8	1/2 - 5/8	4 1/2 - 4 5/8
3-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	1 11/16 - 1 13/16	6 - 6 1/8	4 1/8 - 4 1/4	9/16 - 11/16	4 1/2 - 4 5/8
6-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	1 3/4 - 1 7/8	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	4 3/16 - 4 5/16	1/2 - 5/8	4 9/16 - 4 11/16
1-year	5 1/2 - 5 5/8	3 3/8 - 3 1/2	1 13/16 - 1 15/16	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	4 3/8 - 4 1/2	3/4 - 7/8	4 5/8 - 4 3/4

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/4	8 1/4
Federal funds	5 1/8	5 1/8
3-month CDs	5.19	4.98
Comm. paper 180 days	6.11	6.11
3 month Treasury bill	5.04	5.18
1-year Treasury bill	5.17	5.47
2-year Treasury bill	5.84	5.84
5-year Treasury note	6.15	6.15
7-year Treasury note	6.26	6.26
10-year Treasury note	6.41	6.41
30-year Treasury bond	6.71	6.70
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.63	4.85
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.38	0.34
1-month interbank	0.69	0.49
3-month interbank	0.59	0.59
6-month interbank	0.63	0.63
10-year Govt bond	2.85	2.89
Germany		
Lombard rate	5.00	5.00
Call money	3.38	3.38
1-month interbank	3.37	3.37
3-month interbank	3.35	3.35
6-month interbank	3.38	3.38
10-year Bund	6.54	6.53

Britain	Close	Prev
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	5 7/8	5 15/16
1-month interbank	6.00	6 1/16
3-month interbank	6 1/16	6 1/16
6-month interbank	6 1/8	6.00
10-year Gilt	8.13	8.10
France		
Intervention rate	3.80	3.80
Call money	3 15/16	4.00
1-month interbank	4.00	4 1/16
3-month interbank	4 1/8	4 3/16
6-month interbank	4 1/4	4 1/8
10-year OAT	6.68	6.70

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais.

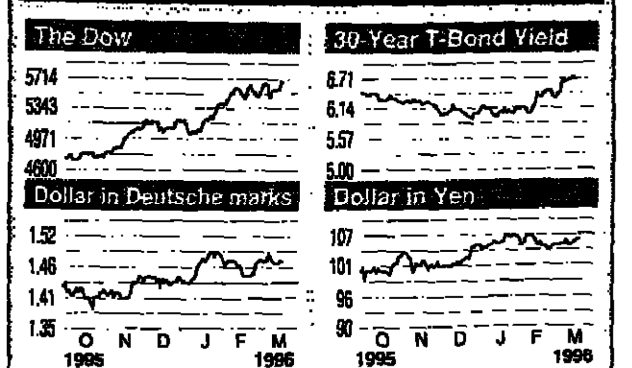
Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	N.A.	395.25	+0.25
London	395.05	395.10	+1.10
New York	396.20	396.00	−0.30

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (April.)

Source: Reuters.

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	5669.51	5683.60	-0.25
NYSE	S&P 500	651.69	652.65	-0.15
NYSE	S&P 100	630.76	631.65	-0.14
NYSE	Composite	348.55	348.78	-0.07
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1112.50	1114.42	-0.17
AMEX	Market Value	564.57	564.78	-0.04
Toronto	TSE Index	4967.30	4960.40	+0.14
São Paulo	Bovespa	48515.31	48869.76	-0.73
Mexico City	Bolsa	3003.84	2874.32	+4.51
Buenos Aires	Merval	496.98	499.79	-0.56
Santiago	IPSA General	5434.05	5458.55	-0.45
Caracas	Capital General	N.A.	3068.38	-

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters International Herald Tribune

GM Strike Hits Midwest Hard

By Keith Bradsher
New York Times Service

DAYTON, Ohio — The 14-day-old strike at two General Motors Corp. brake factories in Dayton has delivered the worst blow to the Midwest economy since the floods of 1993, government and private economists say.

The strike has already reduced the United States' production of goods and services by $5 billion to $7 billion, wiping out a third of the already weak economic growth in the first quarter, several economic research firms said this week, and the effects of a shortage of automotive brakes continue to ripple across the country.

[GM said 26 of its 29 vehicle assembly plants had been closed, Knight-Ridder reported Tuesday from New York. The number of workers sent home because of the strike now totals 166,550, including 69,000 assembly-plant employees.]

"I think this is the biggest single economic event in the Midwest since the flood," said Everett Ehrlich, the undersecretary of commerce for economic statistics.

Negotiators from GM and the United Automobile Workers union have been meeting in Dayton since Sunday to settle the strike, which was caused by a dispute over job security and safety for almost 3,200 workers in Dayton. Both sides continued to observe an agreement not to discuss their differences publicly, but some participants are optimistic that a deal may be reached soon.

Examples of the strike's effects are easy to find. Caterpillar Inc. announced Monday, for example, that it would lay off for at least a week about 115 people who make GM truck engines. Jim Domin, the general manager of Jamestown Industries, closed the company's steel warehouse. Until early this month, 63 people shipped doors and carpets to a nearby GM plant.

The strike is also affecting workers in many other industries. DRI-McGraw/Hill, which runs a large computer model of the economy, estimates that the virtual shutdown of GM's North American operations has resulted in a loss of as much as $2.4 billion in output from the auto industry and double that in other industries.

If the strike continues, the biggest effect may eventually be felt in the willingness of businesses and consumers to continue spending money, one analyst said.

Bid for Another Record Goes Up in Smoke

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks fell from record highs Tuesday as tobacco shares continued a week-long slump on concern that smokers' lawsuits will be hazardous to profits.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 14.09 points, to 5,669.51, after briefly passing the 5,700-point level. The drop came a day after the 30-stock average posted its 18th record of the year.

About six shares rose for every five that dropped on the Big Board, where 438.33 million shares were traded.

Philip Morris slumped 5⅛ to 86⅛, and RJR Nabisco Holdings fell 1½ to 29⅜ to lead the retreat. The U.S. government released statements Monday from former Philip Morris workers that could undermine the industry's claim that it does not try to make cigarettes addictive. The company's shares have fallen nearly 16 percent in the past week.

"Tobacco companies have a problem, and it's not one that is going to go away anytime soon," said Jeffrey Roberts, managing director at Trendline Research & Management.

"Once these stocks discount Armageddon, then I'd think about buying them again."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's disclosure of statements from Philip Morris workers alleging that the company had aimed for specific nicotine levels in its products clashes with industry officials' assertions. The officials have denied that nicotine is addictive and say it is crucial to the taste of a cigarette.

Optimism that the economy is growing fast enough to spark higher corporate profits helped temper stocks' drop.

The Commerce Department reported that housing starts rose 3 percent last month. Economists had expected about a 2.6 percent drop.

Airlines, homebuilders and other stocks that benefit from the extra business generated by an expanding economy were higher.

But bonds ceded an initial gain and closed little changed as traders debated whether the economy was heating up enough to threaten an increase in the inflation rate.

"Right now the market's trying to decide whether growth has actually sped up," said Terrence Pigott, a trader at Daiwa Securities.

The benchmark 30-year bond slipped 4/32 to close at 90 27/32, with the yield edging up to 6.71 percent from 6.70 percent.

"It's still a low-growth, low-inflation environment," said Pat Sheehan, a manager at Smith Barney Asset Management in New York. "I don't see a reason why we should be" close to a 6.75 percent yield. "We should be 6.25 percent to 6.50 percent," he said.

The S&P airline index rose 1.94 to 347.93 as shares of UAL Corp.,

U.S. STOCKS

the parent company of United Airlines, surged 8⅞ to a record 213⅛ after the company said first-quarter earnings should exceed analysts' estimates.

The Dow Jones Transportation Average of 20 stocks climbed 30.46 to a record 2,215.21. Among individual issues, Delta Air Lines rose 2⅛ to 82, and Conrail jumped 2⅜ to 77⅛. AMR, the parent company of American Airlines, climbed ¾ to 91¾, and Alaska Air Group added 1⅛ to 27⅛.

Oil shares rose for a second day as the price of crude oil climbed. The commodity's price has risen as refiners, facing some of the leanest U.S. inventories in 19 years, scramble to secure supplies for a seasonal rise in production.

Mobil climbed 1¾ to 115, Amoco jumped 1¼ to 73⅜, Exxon added 1⅜ to 82⅞, and Texaco spurted 1⅞ to 85⅞.

Computer shares dropped. Digital Equipment fell 2⅛ to 67⅛ after an analyst at Cowen & Co. cut earnings estimates.

Among computer shares, IBM fell 2⅞ to 121¾, Gateway 2000 dropped 1⅛ to 27⅛, and Silicon Graphics fell ¾ to 25⅛.

Some market analysts said stocks were poised to head lower after a 16-month rally.

"A lot of optimism is built on what we've seen in the market place, not on what we expect to see in the next few months," said Gail Dudack, a market strategist at UBS Securities. She said stocks could fall 10 percent before recovering.

(Bloomberg, AP)

Goldman's Profit Helps Heal Scars

By Peter Truell
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The partners of Goldman, Sachs & Co. got the welcome news of an earnings turnaround at the beginning of this week, hearing that their business, buoyed by booming financial markets, had a pretax profit of $565 million in its first quarter, ended Feb. 29.

That was more than triple Goldman's pretax profit of $160 million a year earlier, the firm's partners were told in a meeting at their headquarters here. The latest quarter was the firm's fourth-best quarter ever, surpassed only by the first three quarters of its 1992-93 year, and its fifth consecutive quarter of improving earnings, reflecting its turnaround from a difficult 1994 when Wall Street's earnings slumped and Goldman's top leaders left.

"It was a very positive quarter for all divisions; there was very consistent profitability," said a Goldman partner who asked not to be identified. Unlike corporations, partnerships are not taxed directly; rather, the partners pay taxes individually on their shares of the firm's profit.

Wall Street's last big private partnership, Goldman, which was founded in 1869, decided this year to remain a private partnership after several senior employees spent months studying the firm's capital structure and needs.

"We have had favorable markets; we have had a relatively attractive environment to execute a turnaround," Jon S. Corzine, Goldman's chairman and senior partner, said recently.

Very briefly:

Cirrus Logic to Slash Its Staff 13%

FREMONT, California (Bloomberg) — Cirrus Logic Inc. said Tuesday it would fire 455 employees, or about 13 percent of its work force, because of slowing sales of its computer chips.

The chipmaker said the job cuts from its work force of 3,500 would include full-time and temporary employees. The company also expects to cut expenses in the current quarter by reducing bonuses.

Cirrus, hurt by slowing orders from some customers in the final three months of 1995, said it expected a "substantial" loss for the quarter and a slump in sales from the $296 million posted for its third quarter.

Cirrus Logic shares fell $1.125, to $18.625.

• **Nynex Corp.** plans to offer Internet access to residents and businesses by the end of the year, following similar moves by AT&T Corp., MCI Communications Corp. and other so-called Baby Bell regional telephone companies.

• **ABN-AMRO Holding NV** will pay $190 million for Comerica Bank-Illinois, a unit of Detroit-based Comerica Inc., to try to strengthen its position in the Chicago area.

• **U.S. retail sales** rose 7.3 percent last week from the year-earlier week, Johnson Redbook Service's weekly report said.

• **Rockefeller Center's** occupancy rate fell to 86.3 percent at the end of December from 90.2 percent a year earlier.

• **General Public Utilities Corp.** of New Jersey plans to cut 300 to 400 jobs to streamline its electric operations and become more competitive.

AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder

Rate News Lifts Krona and Dollar

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Sweden's central bank on Tuesday cut a key interest rate for the sixth time this year, signaling a slowdown in the economy and paving the way for further strength in the country's currency, traders said.

The Riksbank's decision to reduce the securities repurchase rate, or repo rate, by 0.2 percentage point, to 7.60 percent, sent the krona to new highs in early trading and lifted Swedish stock and bond prices.

The central bank has lowered the repo rate by 1.31 percentage points since January, reducing the cost of funds for banks and other financial institutions, which could then reduce rates on consumer loans.

The dollar closed Tuesday in New York at 6.6588 kronor, down from 6.7203 kronor a day earlier.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The dollar fell to 1.4735 Deutsche marks from 1.4769 DM on the belief that Germany will not cut interest rates. But the U.S. currency closed at 106.175 yen, up from 106.105 yen, as investors sought security amid growing China-Taiwan tensions.

The dollar slipped to 5.0375 French francs from 5.0475 francs and to 1.1902 Swiss francs from 1.1922 francs. The pound rose to $1.5338 from $1.5324.

Separately, the European Commission, contradicting published reports, said it would be "premature" to say whether countries seeking to take part in the single European currency would have to be members of the EU's exchange-rate mechanism.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, March 19
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	80.60	79.50	80	80
Aegon	73	71.70	73	72
Ahold	77.50	76.20	77.10	76
Akzo Nobel	182.80	181.50	181.90	180.90
Bols Wess cva	33.40	33	33.10	33.10
CSM cva	78.30	77.20	78	76.60
Dordtsche Pet	245.80	244.30	244.60	243
DSM	155.30	154.10	154.70	154.20
Elsevier	24.50	24.20	24.40	24.30
Fortis Amev	115.40	112	113	114.30
G-Broc cva	53.40	52.70	52.90	53.40
Hagemeyer	105	103.80	105	104
Heineken	334	330.20	333.90	330
Hoogovens	63.40	62.80	62.80	63.10
Hunt Douglas	103	101.30	102	102
ING cva	115.60	113.80	114.80	114.90
KLM	57.10	56.70	57	56.60
KNP BT	46.10	45.30	46	46
KPN	68.50	67.60	68.10	68
Nedlloyd Gp	36.50	36	36.50	36.50
Nutricia	156.80	155.70	156.80	155.80
Oce Grinten	140.20	136.40	138.50	135.30
Pakhoed	45.20	42.80	44.60	44.80
Philips Elec	67.70	66.80	67.40	66.70
Polygram	99.40	98	98.20	99
Randstad Hdg	84.80	82.50	84.50	81.60
Robeco	122.50	121.90	122.20	121.50
Rodamco	46.50	46.10	46.50	46.20
Rolinco	130.90	130.20	130.20	128.60
Rorento	94.30	94.10	94.20	93.80
Royal Dutch	234.40	232.60	233.50	230.60
Stork	48.30	46.90	47.50	47
Unilever cva	229.50	227	228.70	225.50
VNU	26.80	26.30	26.60	26.60
Wolters Kl cva	178.50	177	178.30	177.20

EOE index: 527.93
Previous: 524.82

Bangkok

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	484	472	474	480
Bangkok Bk F	340	330	338	328
Krung Thai Bk	116	114	115	115
PTT Explor	296	294	294	294
Siam Cement F	1240	1234	1234	1222
Telecomasia	70	69	69	69
Thai Airways	52	51	52	51
Thai Farm Bk F	290	290	290	290
Thai Teleph	90	89	90	88.50
Utd Comm	356	352	352	352

SET index: 1284.08
Previous: 1277.01

Bombay

Monday, March 18

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Assoc Cement	3470	3395	3420	3475
Grasim Ind	590	585	585	585
Hindalco Ind	1110	1095	1105	1110
Indust Lever	710	700	710	695
Indian Hotels	690	680	690	700
ITC	241	233	234	251
Larsen Toubro	244	236	237	241
Reliance Ind	220	212	213.25	221
Tata Eng Loco	416	410	414	418
Tata Iron St	189.50	183.75	184.75	189.50

Sensitive index: 3292.21
Previous: 3343.27

Brussels

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Arbed	3385	3260	3260	3340
Barco Ind	4090	4015	4050	4000
BBL	5700	5620	5660	5610
Bekaert	28925	28400	28700	28150
CBR	12225	12150	12225	12100
CMB	2440	2410	2430	2390
Cockerill	177	174	175	174
Colruyt	10050	9920	9940	9950
Delhaize Lion	1322	1302	1312	1312
Electrabel	6870	6840	6850	6820
Electrafina	2860	2830	2850	2830
Fortis AG	3745	3680	3725	3635
GIB	1490	1470	1484	1454
GBL	3925	3825	3925	3820
Gen Banque	10950	10900	10925	10825
Glaverbel	3460	3430	3440	3450
Kredietbank	8290	8160	8210	8200
Mosane	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	2150
Petrofina	8560	8510	8540	8510
Powerfin	3970	3910	3940	3920
Recticel	308	307	307	302
Royale Belge	6100	6050	6060	6000
Soc Gen Belg	2490	2445	2475	2445
Solvay	18025	17900	18000	17800
Tessenderlo	12700	12400	12600	12425
Tractebel	12200	12075	12100	11900
UCB	51350	50350	51300	50050
Union Miniere	2280	2265	2270	2255

Stock Exchange index: 8721.20
Previous: 8649.85

Copenhagen

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Carlsberg B	317	314	317	313
Danisco	286	283	283	283
Den Danske Bk	376	371	372	370
D/S Svenborg A	170500	169745	170000	173000
D/S 1912 A	120998	119000	119000	120000
East Asiatic Co	114	108	110	113
FLS Ind B	460	455	459	460.69
ISS Intl Svc B	143	139	141	138.75
Nvo Nordisk B	741	731	738	734
Radiometer B	410	400	405	405

Frankfurt

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB	820	800	810	815
AEG	165.90	165	165.50	163.50
Allianz Hdg	2732	2720	2728	2674
Altana	981	968	980	961
Asko Deutsche	940	928	940	923
Bodenwerk	498	498	497	505
BASF	406	401	401	400
Bayer Hypo Bk	36.40	36.27	36.32	36.20
Bay.Vereinsbank	43.50	43.20	43.30	43.25
Bayer	507.30	500.70	502.30	492.50
Berliner Kraft	410.50	405	410.50	409.50
BHF Bank	39.80	39	39.40	39.30
BMW	816	812	818	809
CKAG Colonia	1135	1135	1135	1135
Commerzbank	332.50	330.50	332.50	329
Daimler Benz	825	821	822.30	812.50
Degussa	547	542	543.50	541.50
Deutsche Bank	74.05	73	73.95	72.65
Dresdner Bank	38.10	37.97	38.05	37.97
Heidelbg Zmt	970	967	970	975
Henkel	558	550	556	552
Hochtief	632	621	622	619
Hoechst	506.50	502.50	503	503
Holzmann Ph.	528	520	521	526
Karstadt	565	560	563.50	557.50
Kaufhof Hdg	486	480	485	482
Linde	870	868	868.50	862
Lufthansa ord	229.50	228	229.50	226
MAN	417.50	414.30	417	410.50
Mannesmann	532	526	530	516
Muench Rueck	3027	3015	3024	3014
Preussag	431	429	429.75	427
PWA	204	203.50	202.50	199
RWE	59.55	59.25	59.50	58.25
SAP pfd	212.80	209.50	212	212.50
Schering	118.40	116.20	116.95	118.30
Schmalb Lub	248	246	248	245.50
Siemens	837.50	834.70	835.80	827
Suedzucker	765	755	758	768
Thyssen	290.40	286.50	290.30	284.30
Veba	70	69.85	69.98	69.35
VEW	494	491	492	488
Viag	658	652	658	451.50
Volkswagen	546.50	541	544.50	534.50
Wella	720	712	712	719

DAX index: 2493.26
Previous: 2463.16

Helsinki

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor I	200.90	197	200	196
Enso-Gutzeit R	36.20	35	36.20	35
Huhtamaki IF	149.50	147	148.50	146
Kesko	58.80	58	58	58.50
Kone BF	505	490	491	500
Kymmene F	132	128	132	127
Merita A	11.70	11.50	11.50	11.50
Metra BF	185	180	183	180
Metsa-Serla B	152	146	151	144
Nokia Pfd F	169	166.20	167	166.80
Outokumpu A	88.80	86.70	88.80	86.60
Rautaruukki	35	34	35	33.80
Repola	93.80	91.50	92.50	90
Stockmann A	247	240	247	245
Valmet A	117	115	115.80	114

HEX General index: 1897.16
Previous: 1871.73

Hong Kong

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	9.15	8.90	9.10	8.80
Bk East Asia	26.70	26.40	26.50	26.10
Cathay Pacific	13.40	13.15	13.15	13.20
Cheung Kong	54	53	54	52.25
China Light	34.50	34.10	34.40	33.90
Chin Estates	7	6.85	6.95	6.85
Citic Pacific	29.05	28.50	29.05	28.35
Cons Elec Pwr	12.90	12.50	12.85	12.45
Dao Heng Bk	30.60	30.40	30.50	30.60
First Pacific	11.15	10.95	11.05	11
Great Eagle	23	22.30	22.95	22.05
Guangdong Inv	4.83	4.75	4.80	4.70
Guoco Group	40.80	39.50	40.30	39.20
Hang Lung	14.80	14.25	14.65	14.20
Hang Seng Bk	79.25	76.75	79	76.25
Henderson Inv	7.20	7.10	7.20	7.05
Henderson Ld	55.25	53.75	55	53.25
HKR Intl	8.50	8.25	8.40	8.10
HK Aircraft	20.60	20.45	20.55	20.45
HK China Gas	15	14.80	14.85	14.65
HK Electric	25.60	25.30	25.35	25.30
HK Shang Htls	12.55	12.20	12.55	12.05
HK Telecomm	15.35	15.15	15.35	15.05
Hopewell Hdgs	5	4.80	4.93	4.90
HSBC Hdgs	117	116	117	114.50
Hutchison Wh	45.80	45.40	45.20	44.80
Hysan Dev	23.85	23	23.80	22.75
Johnson El 500	13.80	13.40	13.75	13.60
Miramar Hotel	16.90	16.40	16.85	16.20
Natl Mutual	7.25	7.15	7.20	7.25
New World	36.40	34.80	36.10	34.40
Oriental Press	3.20	3.15	3.15	3.13
Orient Telecom	2.60	2.50	2.53	2.55
Shangri-La	11.25	10.95	11.25	11
SHK Props	70.50	68	70.25	67.25
Shun Tak Hdgs	5.50	5.35	5.40	5.40
Sino Land Co.	7.90	7.45	7.85	7.35
Sth China Post	5.50	5.25	5.40	5.10
Swire Pac A	67.25	66	67	65.25
Tsim Sha Tsui	8.90	8.65	8.90	8.60
TV Broadcasts	27.65	27.50	27.50	27.50
Wharf Hdgs	28.90	28.50	28.85	28
Wheelock	15.20	14.90	15.10	14.85

Hang Seng index: 10880.50
Previous: 10601.30

Jakarta

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	2925	2900	2900	2950
Barito Pacific	2475	2400	2475	2375
Gudang Garm	28200	27600	28200	27600
Indah Kiat	1900	1850	1875	1850
Indocement	8800	8775	8775	8775
Indofood	11600	11300	11600	11300
Indorayon	2500	2450	2450	2475
Indosat	8325	8225	8225	8150

Johannesburg

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	245	243	243	244
AngloAm Gold	400	400	400	411
AngloAm Ind	177	177	177	176.50
Barlow	52.75	52.75	52.75	52.75
C.G. Smith	27.75	27.50	27.50	27.25
De Beers	122.50	122	122.50	122
Driefontein	59.75	59.25	59.65	59.75
Freegold	36.75	36.50	36.65	37.45
Fst Natl Bk	34.50	34.50	34.50	34.50
Gencor	14.25	14.20	14.20	14.20
GFSA	133	133	133	133
Iscor	3.63	3.57	3.58	3.57
Johnnies Ind	57.75	57.50	57.75	58
Kloof Gold	48.75	48.25	48.75	49
Liberty Life	127	127	127	129
Nedcor	62.50	62.50	62.50	62.50
Rembrandt Gp	36	35	35	36.25
Richemont	54.25	52.25	52.50	54.25
Rust Platinum	67	65.50	65.50	68
SA Breweries	132	131.50	131.75	132
Sappi	50.25	48	50	47.75
Sasol	37.85	37.50	37.75	37.50
SBIC	182	182	182	180
Tiger Oats	66	66	66	66

All Market Index: 6645.84
Previous: 6451.98

Kuala Lumpur

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Genting	22.50	22.30	22.30	22.30
Hicom Hldgs	5.60	5.50	5.55	5.60
Mal Banking	23.90	23.60	23.70	23.90
Mal Intl Ship F	7.35	7.10	7.10	7.40
Public Bank F	7.20	7.05	7.05	7.05
Resorts World	14.90	14.70	14.80	14.80
Sime Darby	6.90	6.80	6.85	6.85
Telekom Mal	23.20	22.90	23	22.90
Tenaga	10.90	10.80	10.80	10.70
Utd Engineers	17.10	16.80	16.80	16.30

Composite index: 1122.53
Previous: 1115.72

London

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	5.74	5.37	5.60	5.50
Allied Domecq	5	4.88	4.91	4.89
Anglian Water	6.02	5.92	5.93	5.93
Argyll Group	3.15	3.08	3.14	3.08
Arjo Wiggins	2.09	2	2.05	2.02
Asda Group	1.06	1.04	1.05	1.04
Assoc Br Foods	4.10	4.04	4.05	4.04
BAA	5.32	5.18	5.27	5.19
Barclays	7.42	7.06	7.23	7.11
Bass	7.49	7.40	7.42	7.40
BAT Ind	5.05	4.83	5.03	4.88
Bank Scotland	2.59	2.51	2.55	2.55
BICC	3.44	3.38	3.42	3.37
Blue Circle	3.41	3.33	3.35	3.36
BOC Group	9.12	9.02	9.03	9.02
Boots	6.06	5.93	5.97	5.93
Rexam	3.79	3.58	3.73	3.59
BPB Ind	3.22	3.02	3.18	3.17
Brit Aerosp	8.81	8.70	8.77	8.74
Brit Airways	5.29	5.25	5.26	5.26
Brit Gas	2.33	2.30	2.33	2.31
Brit Petm	5.78	5.59	5.75	5.59
Brit Steel	1.99	1.92	1.97	1.93
Brit Telecom	3.55	3.34	3.51	3.51
BTR	3.37	3.32	3.34	3.35
Burmah Cast	10.35	10.25	10.25	10.27
Cable Wireless	4.90	4.75	4.81	4.83
Cadbury Schw	5.23	5	5.11	4.99
Caradon	2.17	2.12	2.13	2.12
Carlton Comm	4.35	4.25	4.31	4.30
Coats Viyella	2.03	1.98	1.98	1.99
Comml Union	5.85	5.68	5.79	5.68
Courtaulds	4.43	4.35	4.37	4.37
De La Rue	7.48	7.35	7.36	7.41
Eng China Cl	3.20	3.10	3.14	3.10
Enterprise Oil	4.34	4.25	4.29	4.25
Fam Colonial	1.58	1.55	1.57	1.56
Forte	3.52	3.48	3.48	3.48
Genl Accident	6.33	6.19	6.32	6.20
GEC	3.63	3.57	3.59	3.59
GKN	9.20	9.13	9.11	9.10
Glaxo	8.27	7.89	8.05	7.97
Granada Gp	7.35	7.22	7.30	7.24
Grand Met	4.40	4.36	4.32	4.26
GRE	2.38	2.29	2.34	2.30
Guinness	4.75	4.62	4.63	4.56
GUS	6.92	6.83	6.83	6.86
Hanson	1.95	1.89	1.90	1.92
Hillsdown Hdg	1.87	1.82	1.85	1.82
HSBC Hldgs	9.93	9.76	9.85	9.75
ICI	9.32	9.26	9.25	9.20
Inchcape	2.66	2.58	2.58	2.60
Kingfisher	5.40	5.33	5.34	5.34
Ladbroke	1.91	1.85	1.88	1.85
Land Sec	6.21	6.13	6.20	6.12
Laporte	7.33	7.10	7.28	7.23
Lasmo	1.91	1.87	1.87	1.87
Legal Genl Grp	6.87	6.79	6.85	6.77
Lloyds Abbey	5.18	5.08	5.11	5.15
Lloyds TSB Gp	3.19	3.02	3.12	3.06
London Elec	7.39	7.24	7.37	7.26
Lucas Ind	2.01	1.97	1.97	1.92
Marks Spencer	4.31	4.24	4.25	4.24
MEPC	4.10	4.01	4.03	4.02
Mercury Asset	8.60	8.43	8.52	8.47
Midlands Elec	4.07	3.97	3.98	3.90
Natl Power	4.77	4.69	4.69	4.69
NatWest	6.49	6.21	6.31	6.30
News Intl	3.11	3.06	3.10	3.05
Utd Utilities	6.36	5.93	5.94	5.95
Nthern Foods	1.95	1.90	1.93	1.92
P&O	5.36	5.11	5.31	5.13
Pearson	6.80	6.60	6.75	6.62
Pilkington	2.18	2.08	2.18	2.07
Powergen	5.22	5.14	5.15	5.15
Prudential	4.53	4.37	4.48	4.46
Rank Org	5.12	4.99	5.02	5
Reckitt Colm	6.80	6.69	6.75	6.75
Redland	4.19	4.10	4.11	4.12
Reed Intl	10.94	10.77	10.91	10.78
Rentokil	3.48	3.42	3.46	3.42
Reuters Hdgs	7.07	6.93	6.97	6.98
RMC Group	10.15	9.95	9.96	10.07
Rolls Royce	2.17	2.12	2.15	2.13
Schroders	12.44	12.10	12.44	12.08
Scot Newcastle	6.49	6.40	6.46	6.43
Scot Power	3.55	3.46	3.53	3.46
Sears	1.01	0.98	0.99	1
Severn Trent	6.63	6.30	6.63	6.30
Shell Trsp reg	8.63	8.36	8.59	8.51
Siebe	8.32	8.23	8.25	8.23
Smith Nephew	1.86	1.83	1.80	1.84
Smith (WH)	4.42	4.18	4.21	4.19
SmithKline cIA	6.79	6.57	6.66	6.71
Smiths Ind	6.95	6.83	6.92	6.86
Sthern Elec	8.63	8.55	8.56	8.57
Stand Charter	6.31	6.05	6.11	6.08
Sun Alliance	3.73	3.53	3.60	3.54
Tate & Lyle	4.84	4.77	4.83	4.76
Tesco	2.80	2.71	2.76	2.71
Thames Water	5.60	5.44	5.55	5.51
Thorn EMI	16.38	16.12	16.13	16.25
3i Group	4.20	4.13	4.18	4.14
TI Group	4.92	4.74	4.88	4.75
Tomkins	2.57	2.50	2.56	2.52
Unilever	12.55	12.36	12.47	12.37
Utd Biscuits	2.50	2.43	2.48	2.44
Uts News	6.27	6.11	6.25	6.10
Vendome uts	5.80	5.74	5.75	5.77
Vodafone	2.57	2.49	2.49	2.50
Whitbread	7.03	6.96	7	6.97
Williams Hdgs	3.17	3.13	3.14	3.15
Wolseley	4.65	4.58	4.60	4.58
Zeneca	13.84	13.37	13.66	13.72

FT-SE 100 Index: 3693.00
Previous: 3669.60

Madrid

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	13400	13300	13400	13300
ACESA	1225	1205	1220	1205
Argentaria	5250	5200	5240	5220
BBV	4625	4575	4625	4560
Banesto	830	820	829	826
Bankinter	12200	11990	12190	11890
Bco Central Hisp	2695	2620	2685	2650
Bco Exterior	3220	3200	3220	3200
Bco Popular	20600	20050	20490	20100
Bco Santander	5640	5580	5640	5600
CEPSA	3995	3920	3985	3945
Corp Mapfre	6460	6440	6440	6400
Dragados	1630	1615	1620	1615
Endesa	6800	6690	6710	6710
FECSA	799	790	799	784
Fomento Const	10850	10750	10790	10700
Gas Natural	20200	20000	20100	20000
Hidrolec Cantab	3900	3885	3900	3875
Iberdrola	1125	1095	1120	1095
Pryca	2450	2420	2430	2420
Repsol	4580	4560	4570	4575
Sevillana Elec	880	876	877	875
Tabacalera	5750	5710	5750	5800
Telefonica	1995	1975	1995	1975
Union Fenosa	670	660	670	659
Valenc Cement	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	1375

Stock Exchange index: N.A.
Previous: 330.22

Manila

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala A	23.75	23.25	23.50	23.50
Ayala Land	40.50	38	38.50	38.50
Manila Elec A	155	154	154	155
Metro Bank	620	610	615	615
Petron	13	12.75	13	12.75
Phil Long Dist	1495	1480	1485	1470
San Miguel A	52.50	52	52.50	52
San Miguel B	96.50	93.50	95	93.50
SM Prime Hdg	7.80	7.60	7.70	7.60

PSE index: 2875.42
Previous: 2858.49

Mexico

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	96.60	94.40	96.40	94.00
Cemex B	29.10	27.85	29.00	27.60
Cifra C	9.60	9.32	9.54	9.30
Empresas ICA	99.80	93.00	99.70	92.20
Emp Modelo	33.90	33.00	33.90	33.00
Femsa	22.50	21.25	22.00	21.15
Gpo Carso A1	51.90	49.90	51.70	49.95
Televisa CPO	98.00	91.50	98.00	90.00
TelMex L	12.18	11.60	12.18	11.56
Tribasa CPO	27.50	25.65	27.50	25.50

Bolsa index: 3003.84
Previous: 2874.32

Milan

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	13360	13050	13200	13030
Bca Comm Ital	3295	3250	3280	3250
Bca Naz Agricol	1000	970	980	950
Bca Naz Lavoro	12480	12310	12310	12490
Bca di Roma	1442	1410	1411	1428
Bca Ambrosian	4170	4070	4100	4125
Benetton	16700	16355	16700	16250
Credito Italiano	1760	1716	1735	1720
Eni	5140	5030	5085	5100
Fondiaria	7200	7085	7090	7120
Generali Assic	36650	36050	36050	36250
IFIL	4865	4815	4845	4800
Italcementi	10790	10550	10605	10555
Italgas	4700	4625	4650	4625
Mediobanca	10150	10020	10025	10085
Montedison	935	925	928	925
Olivetti	810	795	810	796
Pirelli	2210	2190	2210	2205
RAS	16295	16005	16150	16240
Rinascente	10230	10150	10230	10115
S Paolo Torino	9050	8800	8800	8800
SME	1710	1705	1708	1705
Standa	19300	19200	19200	19400
Stet	4585	4510	4525	4515
Telecom Italia	2580	2495	2515	2450
Toro Assic	20250	20100	20100	20100

MIB Telematico index: 9457.00
Previous: 9408.00

Montreal

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cdn Tire A	16¼	16	16¼	16¼
Cdn Util A	26	25¾	25¾	26
Cascades	6¼	6¼	6¼	6¼
CT Finl Svc	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	27
Extendicare	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	37
Gaz Metro	15¼	14¾	15	15
Gt-West Lifeco	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾
Hees Intl Bcp	15¼	14¾	15	15
Hudson's Bay	16¾	16	16¾	16¼
Imasco	25¼	24¾	25¼	25¼
Investors Grp	18	18	18	18¾
Loblaw Cos	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	34¼
Molson A	23¼	23	23¼	23¼
Natl Bk Canada	11¼	11¼	11¼	11¼
Oshawa A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	22¼
Pancdn Petlm	50¼	50¼	50¼	50½
Power Corp	20	19¾	19¾	19¾
Power Finl	33¾	33¼	33¾	32¾
Quebecor B	22½	22	22½	22
Rogers Comm B	12¾	12½	12¾	12½
Royal Bk Cda	32	31¾	31¾	31¾
Sears Canada	6¼	6¼	6½	6¼
Shell Cda A	46¼	46	46	45¾
Southam	16	15¾	16	16
Stelco A	5½	5¾	5¾	5½
Trilon Finl A	4.85	4.85	4.85	4.90

Industrials Index: 2527.27
Previous: 2522.74

Oslo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	115	113	115	111
Bergesen Dy B	118	115.50	115.50	116.50
Christiania Bk	15.80	15.70	15.80	15.50
Den Norske Bk	21.10	20.80	21	20.90
Dl Norsk Luft	307	303	306	302
Dyno Indust	149	145.50	146	147
Elkem	88	86	87	86
Hafslund A	188	186	187.50	185
Kvaerner	235	231	231	229
Leif Hoegh	91	89.50	89.50	92
Norsk Hydro	284	281.50	282	281.50
Norske Skog A	212	207	208	210
Orkla	299	296	298	296
Rieber B	136	135	135	135
Saga Petlm B	77	74	74	74.50
Schibsted	94	90	90	89
UniStorebr A	33.50	33.10	33.20	33

OBX index: 436.52
Previous: 435.34

Paris

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	726	713	724	712
AGF	146	141	144	145
Air Liquide	889	864	876	860
Alcatel Alsth	434	426.50	427.80	430
Axa	304.50	300.60	301	300.70
Bancaire	502	492.50	494.90	500
BNP	198	192.70	193.10	193.50
Bouygues	484	476	481.30	477
Canal Plus	1088	1065	1070	1087
Carrefour	3504	3470	3471	3462
CCF	241	238	238.60	238
CarnaudMB	211	201	206	210
Credit Local Fr	409.80	398.20	398.40	404.90
Credit Lyon PC	220.20	215	215.10	221
Danone	778	768	772	774
Elf-Aquitaine	358.50	351.50	351.50	351.90
Eridania BS	860	845	854	850
Euro Disney	13.85	12.60	13.80	13.95
Eurotunnel uts	6	5.90	6	5.95
Gen. Eaux	508	497	499.50	495
Havas	409	401.20	401.20	407
Lafarge Cop	354.50	346.80	348.50	353
Legrand	888	861	867	875
L'Oreal	1418	1395	1400	1380
LVMH	1150	1126	1137	1149
Lyon. Eaux	465.80	460.50	462	459.50
Michelin B	240.80	232.70	234.50	239.10
Navig Mixte	801	800	800	800
Paribas A	288.80	283.20	284	286.90
Pechiney SA	216	213	216	216
Pernod Ricard	318.80	314.50	316.50	313
Peugeot Cit	791	779	787	775
Pinault-Print	1152	1135	1140	1147
Promodes	1313	1285	1285	1268
Renault	146.80	142.20	144	146.50
Rh-Poulenc A	125.50	124.30	124.80	124
Roussel-Uclaf	1088	1060	1068	1077
Sanofi	373	366.90	368.60	370
Schneider	226.10	222	224	223.90
Ste Generale	556	543	545	547
St Gobain	648	640	643	641
St Louis	1457	1426	1430	1439
Suez	195	191.60	192.50	192.40
Thomson CSF	116.40	113.40	114	114.80
Total B	333.80	326.40	331	324
UAP	110.30	108	109	108.70
Valeo	268	263	265.80	266

CAC-40 index: 1967.20
Previous: 1965.87

São Paulo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bco Brasil Pfd	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	13.85
Banespa Pfd	4.80	4.60	4.60	4.71
Bradesco Pfd	10.15	9.85	10.00	10.15
Brahma Pfd	481.00	470.00	476.00	470.00
Cemig Pfd	26.40	26.00	26.20	26.60
CESP Pfd	35.02	34.40	34.40	35.00
Eletrobras B	261.00	253.00	253.00	258.00
Itaubanco Pfd	342.00	340.50	342.00	337.00
Light	325.00	320.00	320.01	321.00
Paranapan Pfd	13.98	13.40	13.80	14.00
Petrobras Pfd	117.00	113.50	114.00	116.03
Sid Nacional	27.60	27.40	27.80	27.51
Souza Cruz	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	7.20
Telebras Pfd	49.60	48.60	48.70	49.85
Telesp Pfd	172.00	165.00	172.00	168.50
Usiminas Pfd	1.07	1.04	1.07	1.06
CVRD Pfd	150.02	147.00	148.50	151.00

Bovespa index: 48515.30
Previous: 48869.80

Seoul

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Daewoo Heavy	7850	7500	7650	7790
Hyundai Eng	37400	36800	37000	37000
Hyundai Motor	38900	38500	38700	38500
Korea El Pwr	29800	29500	29700	29500
Korea Mob Tel	445000	435000	441000	434000
Samsung Hvy	16000	15500	16000	15600
Yukong	25500	25000	25500	25100

Composite index: 840.13
Previous: 854.46

Singapore

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cerebos Pac	12.90	12.50	12.90	12.40
City Devts	11.80	11	11.80	11.20
Cycle Carriage	15.70	15.50	15.60	15.70
Dairy Farm Intl *	0.94	0.93	0.93	0.93
DBS	9.90	9.80	9.90	9.85
DBS Land	5.45	5.10	5.45	5
Fraser & Neave	16.10	15.80	16	15.70
HK Land *	2.25	2.16	2.25	2.14
Hong Leong Fin	4	4	4	4
Jard Matheson *	7.80	7.60	7.65	7.75
Jard Strategic *	3.38	3.26	3.30	3.30
Keppel	12.80	12.40	12.70	12.50
Natsteel	2.82	2.76	2.77	2.75
Neptune Orient	1.63	1.56	1.60	1.62
OCBC foreign	19.80	19.30	19.50	19.30
OSea Union Bk	7.15	7.05	7.15	7.05
Sembawang	7.35	7.30	7.30	7.30
Sing Airlines F	14.70	14.30	14.60	14.50
Sing Petlm	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.74
Sing Press F	29.50	28.30	29.40	28.10
ST Auto F	3.20	3.10	3.10	3.20
ST Ship	2.48	2.48	2.48	2.53
Sing Telecomm	3.38	3.24	3.32	3.38
Straits Steam	4.66	4.52	4.66	4.50
Utd Industrial	1.49	1.43	1.49	1.47
Utd OSea Bk F	15.10	14.40	14.90	14.50
Wing Tai Hdgs	3.56	3.52	3.56	3.50

*: in U.S. dollars.
Straits Times index: 2385.30
Previous: 2361.45

Stockholm

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA BF	100	98	99.50	97
Asea AF	700	696	700	691
AssiDoman F	163	158	160	160
Astra AF	314	308	311.50	305
Atlas Copco AF	124.50	122	122	124.50
Avesta F	70.50	68	69	70
Electrolux BF	348	339	340	346
Ericsson BF	157	151.50	154.50	149.50
Hennes BF	498	476	487	476
Incentive AF	347	343	347	346
Investor BF	275	270	272	267
Kinnevik BF	235	228	230.50	230
MoDo BF	359	352	359	352
Sandvik BF	140	137	137.50	139.50
SCA BF	123	121	122	122.50
S-E Banken AF	50	49.30	49.50	49.20
Skandia Fors F	154	153	153.50	154
Skanska BF	212	205.50	206	207
SKF BF	162.50	158.50	160	161.50
SSAB BF	81.50	81	81.50	82
Stora AF	94	92	93	92
Sv Handles AF	131.50	129.50	130	129.50
Sydkraft AF	145	144	145	143
Trelleborg BF	85.50	83.50	84	85
Volvo BF	158	154	154.50	156.50

SX 16 index: 2077.12
Previous: 2070.42

Sydney

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.81	8.75	8.80	8.72
ANZ Bking	6.40	6.33	6.33	6.28
BHP	18.64	18.48	18.60	18.30
Boral	3.44	3.38	3.38	3.35
Brambles Ind.	16.70	16.20	16.20	16.40
Burns Philp	3	2.87	2.90	2.87
CBA	10.33	10.14	10.14	10.20
CC Amatil	12.92	12.64	12.86	12.57
Coles Myer	4.33	4.27	4.32	4.34
Comalco	7.26	7.20	7.25	7.15
CRA Ltd	19.60	19.46	19.46	19.32
CSR	4.43	4.33	4.33	4.33
Fosters Brew	2.30	2.23	2.30	2.25
GIO Australia	2.89	2.84	2.85	2.82
Goodman Fid	1.37	1.35	1.35	1.35
ICI Australia	11.20	11	11.20	10.96
John Fairfax	2.89	2.87	2.87	2.87
Lend Lease	19.15	18.99	19.15	18.80
Mayne Nickless	6.73	6.66	6.70	6.66
MIM Hdgs	1.80	1.75	1.79	1.74
Nat Aust Bank	12.01	11.82	11.83	11.87
News Corp	7.54	7.44	7.50	7.40
North Ltd	3.88	3.80	3.80	3.82
Pacific Dunlop	2.97	2.94	2.97	2.94
Pioneer Intl	3.98	3.89	3.94	3.88
Placer Pacific	2.56	2.48	2.49	2.48
Santos	4.48	4.40	4.40	4.38
Southcorp	3.40	3.37	3.39	3.33
Westfarmers	8.15	8.01	8.12	8.05
Wstrn Mining	8.68	8.56	8.59	8.52
Westfield Trt	2.34	2.22	2.24	2.23
Westpac Bking	6.12	6.06	6.08	6.04
Woodside Pet	7.20	7.04	7.05	7.08
Woolworths	3.23	3.19	3.21	3.15

All Ordinaries index: 2256.30
Previous: 2234.60

Taipei

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Cement	45.20	44.50	45.20	45.10
Cathay Life Ins	121	120.50	120.50	120.50
Chang Hwa Bk	104	103	103.50	103.50
China Steel	20.70	20.20	20.40	20.20
China Trust	42.50	42.10	42.50	42.30
Evergreen	47.90	47	47	47.20
Far East Text	24.60	24.20	24.50	24.50
First Bank	107	106	106.50	107
Formosa CP	25.20	24.70	25.20	24.70
Hua Nan Bk	92	90.50	91	91.50
Huaton Teltron	16.60	16.30	16.30	16.40
ICBC	76	75	75.50	75.50
President Ent	32.80	32.30	32.70	32.70
Taiwan Cemt	38.50	38.20	38.50	38.20
Tatung	49.90	49.40	49.60	49.50

Stock Market index: 4950.31
Previous: 4941.42

Tokyo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asahi Bank	1300	1250	1290	1240
Asahi Chem	757	749	754	751
Asahi Glass	1200	1180	1190	1180
Bank of Tokyo	1720	1680	1700	1690
Bk Yokohama	785	760	760	771
Bridgestone	1700	1680	1700	1680
Canon	1970	1930	1950	1910
Chiba Bank	883	860	860	880
Chubu Elec	2460	2400	2420	2430
Chugoku Elec	2380	2360	2380	2370
Daiei	1180	1160	1160	1180
Daiichi Kang	2040	2020	2020	2020
Daiwa Bank	763	743	763	743
Daiwa House	1640	1620	1630	1620
Daiwa Sec	1550	1520	1530	1510
Fanuc	4300	4190	4250	4200
Fuji Bank	2290	2260	2260	2270
Fuji Photo	2960	2910	2910	2950
Fujitsu	1010	996	999	990
Hitachi	1020	1000	1000	1000
Honda Motor	2250	2210	2240	2170
IBJ	2890	2860	2860	2860
IHI	467	457	468	470
Itochu	719	704	705	699
Ito-Yokado	6040	5850	5960	5810
JAL	734	727	728	731
Jusco	2660	2650	2650	2650
Kajima	1070	1040	1070	1030
Kansai Elec	2410	2390	2400	2370
Kao	1310	1290	1300	1300
Kawa Steel	364	360	361	363
KDD	8850	8700	8760	8800
Kinki Nipp Ry	791	779	784	782
Kirin Brewery	1250	1220	1220	1230
Kobe Steel	313	307	307	307
Komatsu	926	917	917	917
Kubota	685	680	683	678
Kyocera	6960	6850	6930	6860
Kyushu Elec	2430	2380	2400	2410
LTCB	844	834	839	842
Marubeni	569	560	565	564
Marui	2170	2080	2130	2050
Matsu Elec Ind	1690	1670	1690	1670
Matsu Elec Wk	1140	1130	1140	1140
Mitsubishi	1290	1270	1280	1250
Mitsubishi Bk	2310	2270	2270	2270
Mitsubishi Ch	550	540	541	540
Mitsubishi El	777	762	776	760
Mitsubishi Est	1360	1340	1360	1340
Mitsubishi Hvy	878	869	870	865
Mitsubishi Mat	914	904	912	902
Mitsubishi Tr	1640	1610	1620	1600
Mitsui	914	907	909	910
Mitsui Fudosn	1340	1300	1340	1290
Mitsui Trust	1190	1150	1150	1150
Murata Mfg	3480	3430	3480	3280
NEC	1190	1160	1190	1150
New Oji Paper	958	942	946	951
Nikko Sec	1310	1270	1300	1250
Nintendo	6820	6770	6780	6700
Nipp Credit Bk	430	421	421	429
Nipp Express	1010	992	992	995
Nippon Oil	642	630	630	639
Nippon Paper	760	736	736	731
Nippon Steel	344	338	343	338
Nippon Yusen	600	583	587	590
Nippondenso	2100	2080	2090	2080
Nissan Motor	802	793	795	794
NKK	298	294	297	294
Nomura Sec	2220	2190	2190	2190
NTT	7870a	7770a	7810a	7690a
Obayashi	874	863	865	855
Odakyu El Ry	733	723	726	725
Ono Pharm	3680	3530	3560	3690
Osaka Gas	374	369	371	369
Ricoh	1160	1130	1140	1140
Sakura Bk	1180	1160	1170	1160
Sankyo	2500	2490	2490	2490
Sanwa Bank	2170	2140	2150	2150
Sanyo Elec	608	600	606	595
Secom	6670	6580	6650	6600
Seibu Rwy	4700	4550	4550	4680
Sekisui House	1300	1290	1300	1280
Seven-Eleven	6940	6880	6868	6930
Sharp	1620	1590	1600	1610
Shimizu	1150	1100	1120	1080
Shin-etsu Ch	2140	2120	2130	2100
Shizuoka Bk	1280	1240	1250	1280
Sony	6380	6300	6300	6280
Sumitomo	1080	1040	1060	1030
Sumitomo Bk	2190	2120	2160	2100
Sumit Chem	544	529	530	532
Sumitomo Elec	1400	1370	1380	1370
Sumit Metal	313	309	313	318
Sumit Trust	1390	1360	1370	1330
Taisei	740	726	737	712
Taisho Pharm	2100	2070	2100	2050
Takeda Chem	1600	1570	1580	1550
TDK	5270	5230	5260	5210
Tohoku El Pwr	2490	2460	2490	2480
Tokai Bank	1410	1390	1390	1390
Tokio Marine	1300	1270	1270	1280
Tokyo El Pwr	2710	2690	2690	2690
Tokyo Gas	370	365	366	369
Tokyu	783	766	782	768
Tonen	1570	1540	1570	1530
Toppan Print	1360	1340	1360	1340
Toray Ind	671	664	666	659
Toshiba	794	776	794	770
Toyo Seikan	3440	3340	3340	3390
Toyo Trust	908	901	908	902
Toyota Motor	2290	2270	2280	2260
Yamaichi Sec	779	769	771	760
Yamanouchi	2330	2300	2300	2310
Yasuda Fire	760	740	760	737
Yasuda Trust	619	610	619	600

a: x 100
Nikkei 225 index: 20442.60
Previous: 20285.13

Toronto

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	20½	20	20	20½
Air Canada	4.60	4.55	4.60	4.60
Alberta Energy	25¼	25	25¼	25
Alcan Alum	46	45¾	46	45¾
Avenor A	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼
Bk Nova Scotia	31¼	30¾	30¾	31
Barrick Gold	39¼	38¾	39½	38½
BCE	48½	47¾	48	47¾
BC Telecomm	25¼	25¼	25¾	25¼
Bombardier B	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼
Brascan A	24	23¾	24	23¾
Cameco	72¾	72	72¾	72¾
CIBC	41¾	41	41	41¾
Cdn Pacific	28¼	27¾	27¾	27½
Cominco	31¾	31½	31¾	31½
Consumers Gas	20¾	20½	20¾	20½
Dofasco	21¾	21¼	21½	21½
Domtar Ind B	10	9¾	9¾	9¾
Du Pont Cda A	28¼	28	28¼	28½
Echo Bay Min	17¼	17¼	17¼	17¼
Empire Co. A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	12
Falconbridge	29	28¾	28¾	28¾
Fletcher Chall A	19¼	18¾	18¾	19
Franco Nevada	81½	81	81½	81
Guardian Cap A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	9¾
Hemlo Gold	17¼	17¼	17½	17¼
Horsham	19¾	19¼	19¾	19½
Imperial Oil	51¼	50¾	50¾	50¾
Inco	48¾	48¼	48¾	48½
IPL Energy	32¾	32¼	32¾	32¼
Laidlaw A	14¼	14¼	14¼	14¼
Laidlaw B	14½	14¼	14¼	14½
Loewen Group	39¾	38½	39¾	38¼
Ldn Insur Gp	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾
Macmill Bldl	18¾	18½	18¾	18½
Magna Intl A	61	60¼	60¾	60½
Maple Leaf Fds	7	6¾	7	7
Moore	26¾	26¼	26¾	26½
Newbridge Net	68¼	67¼	68¼	67¾
Noranda Inc	29¾	29	29½	29
Noranda Forest	8⅞	8¾	8⅞	8⅞
Norcen Energy	20¾	20½	20½	20¾
Nthern Telecom	68	67¾	67¾	67¾
Nova	12½	12¼	12¼	12¼
Onex	14½	14½	14½	14½
Placer Dome	38	37¾	37¾	37¾
Potash Sask	89¾	87¼	87½	87½
Provigo	7¼	7½	7¾	7¾
Quebecor Print	25¼	25	25½	25
Renaissance	36¼	35¾	36	35¾
Rio Algom	25½	25¼	25½	25½
Seagram Co	45¾	44¾	44¾	45¾
Stone Consold	17¼	16¾	17	17¼
Talisman Eny	31¾	31¼	31½	30¾
Teleglobe	20¾	20¼	20¼	20¼
Telus	16¾	16½	16½	16¾
Thomson	20¼	19¾	20	20¾
TorDom Bank	23¾	23¼	23½	23¼
Transalta	14¼	14¼	14¼	14½
TransCda Pipe	19¾	19	19¾	19¾
Utd Dominion	32¾	32¼	32¾	32¼
Westburn	9¾	9½	9¾	9½
Westcoast Eny	20¾	20½	20¾	20½
Weston	48	47¾	47¾	47¾

TSE Industrials Index: 4967.30
Previous: 4960.41

Vienna

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aust Airlines	1874	1874	1874	1840
Brau-Un Goess	596	588	588	586
Bund Vers Pfd	442	442	442	442
Creditanst PC	1615	1615	1490	1490
EA-Generali	3300	3280	3300	3211
EVN	1350	1341	1344	1332
Interunfall	1560	1560	1560	1570
Lenzing	845	842	845	835
Leykam	367	362	364	363
Mayr-Melnhof	525	524	524	520
OEMV	941	934	938	925
Oest Brau-Bet	536	532	535	524
Oest Elektriz	707	704	706	699
VA Tech	1344	1329	1338	1316
Wienerberger	2260	2235	2235	2185

ATX index: 1056.84
Previous: 1042.93

Wellington

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zealand B	3.41	3.38	3.40	3.40
Brierly Invt	1.34	1.32	1.32	1.34
Carter Holt ord	3.11	3.08	3.10	3.09
Fernz	4.40	4.33	4.40	4.31
Fisher Paykel	4.52	4.48	4.52	4.48
Fletcher Chall	3.21	3.16	3.20	3.19
FC Forest	1.95	1.91	1.92	1.93
Goodman Fder	1.55	1.53	1.54	1.53
Indep News	5.35	5.25	5.35	5.25
Lion Nathan	3.53	3.47	3.51	3.41
Nat Gas note	2.06	2.05	2.06	2.03
NZ Refining	23.50	23.00	23.50	23.50
Telecom NZ	6.64	6.57	6.58	6.64
Trust Bk NZ	2.15	2.11	2.15	2.12
Wilson Horton	9.50	9.40	9.50	9.30

NZSE-40 index: 2123.30
Previous: 2121.68

Zurich

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adia B	235	232	234	230
Alusuisse R	1006	997	999	992
Ares-Serono B	915	903	905	905
Baer Hdg B	1315	1290	1310	1295
Baloise Hdg R	2570	2520	2545	2525
BBC B	1463	1445	1457	1438
Bk Vision	1600	1590	1600	1595
Bobst B	1870	1850	1850	1855
Ciba Geigy R	1419	1406	1419	1402
CS Holdings R	112.25	110.75	110.75	112
Elektrowatt B	431	426	430	428
Fischer B	1480	1460	1457	1475
Hilti PC	965	953	965	950
Holderbank B	918	916	917	897
Merkur Hdg R	255	253.25	253.50	257
Nestle R	1371	1358	1370	1359
Oerlikon R	125	124	124.50	122.75
Pargesa Hld B	1450	1450	1450	1450
PharmVisn B	6240	6180	6240	6185
Pirelli B	147	147	147	146.50
Roche Hdg PC	9610	9490	9600	9460
Sandoz R	1333	1325	1327	1320
SBC B	454	450	457	452
Schindler B	1365	1330	1361	1305
SGS B	2550	2500	2520	2490
SMH B	726	711	726	708
Sulzer R	780	770	778	777
Swiss Reins R	1272	1259	1259	1259
Swissair R	1193	1175	1191	1158
UBS B	1315	1305	1311	1305
Winterthur B	798	793	796	790

EUROPE

Michelin's Net Doubled in '95

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Michelin, the world's largest tiremaker, more than doubled its profit after taxes last year as higher product prices and a focus on higher-margin tires offset increased prices for raw materials, the company said Tuesday.

Compagnie Générale des Etablissements Michelin SCA said net profit rose to 2.80 billion French francs ($554.7 million) in 1995 from 1.29 billion francs in 1994.

Michelin also said it would increase its net dividend to 2.75 francs a share from 2.25 francs a share a year earlier. For the first time, Michelin will allow investors to take the dividend either in cash or in stock.

The company, based in Clermont-Ferrand, resumed paying a dividend a year ago as it posted a return to profit for 1994 after a big loss the year before. Michelin is emerging from several years of severe financial problems and extensive restructuring.

Michelin, which holds one-fifth of the estimated $58 billion global tire market, said it intended to continue stringent cost-cutting to achieve double-digit profit increases in subsequent years.

"An operating margin of 10 percent is a minimum in this industry," Eric Bourdais de Charbonnière, Michelin's finance director, said at a news briefing.

He added that Michelin would also continue its strategy of focusing on replacement tires, which offer higher margins than the less expensive tires sold directly to automobile and truck manufacturers.

The French company, which controls Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Co., the largest U.S. tiremaker, turned to higher-margin products to offset a sharp rise in rubber prices and a strong franc relative to currencies in many of its international markets.

Michelin's 1995 sales, which the company reported last month, fell 1.7 percent to 66.11 billion francs, while operating profit rose 20 percent, to 5.70 billion francs. Excluding exchange-rate fluctuations, the increase would have been about 30 percent, Michelin said.

The company said it reduced long-term debt in 1995 to 21.6 billion francs, or 62 percent of total capitalization.

Michelin shares fell 1.9 percent, to 234.50 francs, on the Paris Bourse.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

Renault on Rocks: Profit Falls 41%

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Renault, France's second-largest carmaker, said Tuesday its net profit fell 41 percent last year, hurt by a prolonged transport strike and a sluggish economy in the second half of the year.

Renault, whose largest shareholder is the French *government, said net profit fell to 2.14* billion French francs ($423.9 million), and it predicted little improvement for 1996.

It said the automobile market in France would grow "only moderately" this year and added that "weakening of growth in commercial vehicles from the latter part of 1995 seems to have been confirmed by early indications for 1996."

The company described 1995 as "constrained by weak demand for passenger cars" and said "turmoil in foreign-exchange markets" had further hurt profit.

The company's shares fell 2.50 francs, to 144, on the Bourse in Paris.

Renault's operating profit fell 45 percent in 1995, to 1.26 billion francs, and its car division had an operating loss of 1.7 billion francs after posting a profit of 289 million francs a year earlier. That was partly offset by the performance of the truck division, which contributed 980 million francs to the result, compared with only 190 million francs in 1994.

Chairman Louis Schweitzer also announced plans to reduce costs of car production by 3,000 francs a vehicle, or 8 percent, by the end of 1997.

He said this and other measures should enable the *automobile division to reach its target of a pretax profit* on ordinary activities of 4 percent of sales at the midpoint of the industry cycle.

(Bloomberg, AFP, AFX)

Are Russians Ready To Talk Chicken?

U.S. Seeks to Clear Up Import Squabble

By Paul Blustein
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Russia is sending negotiators to Washington this week to talk turkey about a subject of considerable importance to the U.S. government.

It is not nuclear disarmament or troop reductions. The topic is U.S. chicken, of which Moscow apparently has barred imports.

The Russians are coming, a White House official said Monday, at the invitation of Vice President Al Gore, "and we are prepared to sit down with them" to discuss the ban, a source of growing tension between Washington and the government of President Boris N. Yeltsin.

Russian officials contend that *U.S. chicken is unsanitary and* poses a threat to public health. Washington scoffs that Moscow is making excuses to protect its own beleaguered chicken farmers from efficient American producers.

For the United States, the issue is hardly chicken feed: The poultry industry, which accounts for thousands of jobs in President Bill Clinton's home state of Arkansas, ex*ported more than $500 million of* meat last year to Russia, the biggest overseas market for U.S. chicken.

The squawk is intensifying amid conflicting signals over whether Moscow formally implemented a threatened ban on the chickens Saturday.

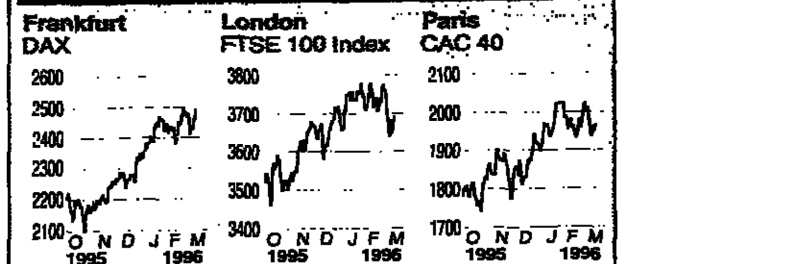
In recent weeks, some Russian officials were quoted as saying the ban would go into effect *March 16, while others said the* dispute could easily be settled with a few assurances from the U.S. side about safety.

The confusion continued this week, as Russia's deputy prime minister for agriculture, Alexander Zaveryukha, was quoted by The Associated Press as telling farmers that no import licenses for U.S. chicken would be issued — the last ones expired Saturday — until U.S. poultry companies took steps to eliminate salmonella bacteria from their products.

But Valery Kruglikov, deputy director of the State Customs Committee, reportedly told the Russian news agency Interfax that U.S. chicken "continues to enter through Russian Federation customs just as it did previously."

Officials at the White House and Agriculture Department said they believed American chicken was still being imported under old li*censes, but that several American* poultry companies were refraining from further shipments until they could get new ones.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	527.93	524.82	+0.59
Brussels	Stock Exchange	8,721.20	8,649.65	+0.82
Frankfurt	DAX	2,493.26	2,463.16	+1.22
Copenhagen	Stock Market	378.53	380.87	-0.61
Helsinki	HEX General	1,897.16	1,871.73	+1.36
Oslo	OBX	436.52	435.34	+0.27
London	FTSE 100	36,93.00	3,669.60	+0.64
Madrid	Stock Exchange	N.A.	330.22	--
Milan	MIBTEL	9,457.00	9,408.00	+0.52
Paris	CAC 40	1,967.28	1,965.02	+0.11
Stockholm	SX 16	2,097.12	2,070.62	+1.28
Vienna	ATX	1,056.84	1,042.93	+1.33
Zurich	SPI	2,299.18	2,286.29	+0.56

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Saab Aircraft AB** said it was considering buying parts of the defunct **Fokker NV**. Separately, the Dutch aircraft maker denied reports that **Aerospatiale** and **Matra SA** of France had expressed interest in acquiring Fokker's 50 percent stake in Fokker Space BV.
- **Psion PLC** reported a 77 percent increase in 1995 pretax profit, to £11.7 million ($17.9 million), enabling the notebook-computer maker to raise its dividend 43 percent, to 5 pence.
- **Rentokil Group PLC**, a unit of **Sophus Berendsen AS** of Denmark, extended its offer for 75 percent of **BET PLC** until April 1.
- **Carnival Corp.** of the United States said it had received nearly half of 20 million common shares it is seeking in its bid to acquire 29.6 percent of **Airtours PLC** for £190 million.
- **Terra Mining AB** reported a discovery of an estimated 12.7 tons of gold in northern Sweden.
- **South Western Electricity PLC** said it had been approached by several companies interested in taking a minority stake in it. According to reports, **Southern Co.** of the United States, which bought South Western in August, is seeking a buyer for a minority stake.
- **Russia**'s annual inflation rate fell to 89 percent in February from 104 percent in January, the lowest rate since the country began its efforts at economic reform in January 1992, the State Statistics Committee said.
- **Hanson PLC** has won acceptance from holders of 99.53 percent of the shares in **Desimpel Kortemark Co.** of Belgium for its offer for the company, which closed Friday. Hanson acquired 50.1 percent of Desimpel from members of the controlling family before bidding for the rest of the shares.
- **Italy**'s producer price index rose 5.9 percent in January from a year earlier, while wholesale prices were up 9.4 percent.
- **Portugal**'s trade deficit narrowed in 1995 to 1.48 trillion escudos ($9.7 billion) from 1.51 trillion escudos.

(Knight-Ridder, AFX, Reuters)

Surge in Subscriptions Aids Canal Plus's Results

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Canal Plus SA said Tuesday its net income rose a better-than-expected 6.4 percent last year, to 666 million French francs ($131.9 million), as subscriptions surged, especially in France.

Improved results from channels outside France offset losses at the pay-television operator's newer projects, such as Canal Plus Poland and Vox, a channel in Germany in which Canal Plus has a minority stake, the company said. Canal Plus said its share of the losses of these associated companies was close to the 1994 level, but it did not provide details.

In 1996, non-French channels are expected to cut their losses by more than half, and Le Studio Canal Plus should "significantly" improve results, the company said.

These improvements "should enable the group to report in 1996 net income comparable to 1995, while financing the expense related to the introduction in France of digital broadcasting," it said.

Shares in Canal Plus fell 17 francs to close at 1,070 on the Paris Bourse. Its earnings were announced after the market closed.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

Improved Margins Lift Lucas Industries

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Lucas Industries PLC said Tuesday its first-half pretax profit rose 38 percent as sales and margins strengthened.

The maker of automotive and aerospace parts has a "clear strategic direction" and is "well positioned" for growth despite the impending departure of its chief executive officer, George Simpson, its finance director, John Grant, said.

Analysts have said the departure of Mr. Simpson, whose appointment by General Electric Co. of Britain as managing director was confirmed Monday, will leave a void at Lucas. There has been speculation that Lucas could find itself vulnerable to a takeover unless a successor is found quickly.

Sir Brian Pearse, chairman of Lucas, said the company was prepared *to release Mr. Simpson before his* contract expired next March but said it could take time to find someone of Mr. Simpson's caliber.

Pretax profit in the six months to Jan. 31 rose to £61.6 million ($94.3 million) from £44.5 million a year earlier. Sales rose 9 percent, to £1.47 billion. Automotive sales rose 13 percent, to £1.23 billion. Shares in the company rose 5 pence, to 197.

"We have a fairly sanguine view about the longer-term outlook," Mr. Grant said. "We think we'll see a sustained period of modest growth over the next two to three years." He also hinted at a possible acquisition valued at £100 million or more.

Mr. Grant said production in the European car industry, which accounts for about 70 percent of the company's sales, grew at a faster-*than-expected 9 percent rate in the* first two months of the year.

Lucas is "conservatively" estimating full-year growth at between 2 and 3 percent, Mr. Grant said.

(Bloomberg, AFX, Reuters)

■ Pakhoed Profit Jumps

Royal Pakhoed NV said net profit rose 31 percent last year as earnings from its chemical-storage business increased, Bloomberg Business News reported from Rotterdam.

The transport, storage and distribution company said profit rose to 121.5 million guilders ($73.7 million) from 92.7 million guilders a year earlier. Sales rose 51 percent, to *2.07 billion guilders, helped by the* acquisition of the French chemicals distributor Lambert Rivière SA.

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close
The top 300 most-active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
AIM Str	668	9⅝	9⅜	9⁹⁄₁₆	—
AMC	859	23⅛	22⅝	23	—
AMC pf	465	40	39⅝	39⅝	—⅜
ARC	147	2⅜	2⁵⁄₁₆	2⁵⁄₁₆	—¹⁄₁₆
AdvMag	136	23¾	22½	22½	—1¼
AdvMed	1541	3	2⅞	2⅞	+⅛
AHoopen	423	11⅞	11¾	11⅞	+⅛
Allin	152	1⁷⁄₁₆	1⅜	1⁷⁄₁₆	—⅛
Alphaln	458	7⅞	7⅝	7⅝	—⅛
Amdhl	3803	9¼	9	9	—⅛
AmList	143	33⅝	31⅞	32⅝	+⅞
Ampex n	6212	6⅛	5⅞	5⅞	—⅛
Andrea	137	15	14⅝	14⅝	—⅜
Atrogenx	163	1⅝	1⁹⁄₁₆	1½	—⅛
Arhyth	138	3⅝	3⁹⁄₁₆	3⅝	—
Astrotc	282	4⅝	4½	4½	—
Atari	3006	3⁹⁄₁₆	3½	3⅝	+⅛
AudSurv	140	2⅜	2⅜	2⅜	+⅜
Azco	382	1⅝	1⁵⁄₁₆	1⁵⁄₁₆	—¹⁄₁₆
BAT Ind	435	15⅜	15¹¹⁄₁₆	15¹¹⁄₁₆	—
Baker	511	4⁹⁄₁₆	4⅜	4⁹⁄₁₆	+¹⁄₁₆
Baldw	443	4⁹⁄₁₆	4⅜	4⅜	—⅜
BkSthg	202	17	14⅞	16⅞	+1⅞
BanyHl	234	¾	¾	¾	—
Barister	140	1¹⁵⁄₁₆	1¹³⁄₁₆	1¹⁵⁄₁₆	—¹⁄₁₆
Bayou	158	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	—¹⁄₁₆
BS VPt wt	228	5⅜	5⅜	5⅜	—¹⁄₁₆
BemaGold	1584	3⁹⁄₁₆	3⅝	3½	—¹⁄₁₆
BioR A	431	40⅛	39⅝	39⅝	—⅜
Biovail s	1451	28⅝	26¾	28⅝	+2
BlondT n	245	13⅝	13⅛	13½	—
Bosmid n	1263	12⅝	12⅛	12⅝	+⅛
Bowmr	107	2⅝	2⁹⁄₁₆	2⅝	+¹⁄₁₆
Bowne	488	18⅛	17⅝	17½	—½
Buffton	192	2⅝	2⅜	2⅜	—
Cablvsn	446	58⅜	57⅜	57⅜	—⅜
Intrsystm	188	1¹¹⁄₁₆	1⅜	1⅜	—¹⁄₁₆
IvaxDi sr	489	14⅝	14⅜	14⅜	+⅛
IvaxCp	3477	25⅝	26⅜	26⅜	+⅜
JanBell	325	3⁹⁄₁₆	3⅝	3⅝	—⅛
KV Ph B	127	16	15½	15¾	+⅛
KV Ph A	267	16⅛	15⅝	15⅞	+⅜
Keane	1177	29	28⅝	29	+⅛
KeyEng	235	7⅝	7½	7⁹⁄₁₆	—
Kirby	473	16⅞	16⅛	16½	—⅛
KogrEq	255	11⅞	11	11	—
LXRBiot	170	5⅛	4⅝	4⅝	—⅛
LaBarg	147	3⅞	3⅝	3⅝	—¹⁄₁₆
Laser	800	10⅞	10⅜	10⅜	+⅛
LsrTech	154	7⅝	6⅞	7⅝	—
LeathFac	156	2	1⅞	1⅞	—⅛
LB Eur wt	141	9⅛	9	9⅛	+⅛
LilVern	178	14⅝	14	14⅝	—
Lumex	1011	14⅜	13⅝	14	—
MC Shp	607	4⅛	4⅛	4⅛	—
MDC Gr n	571	1⅜	1⁵⁄₁₆	1⅜	—¹⁄₁₆
MSR	375	⅞	¹³⁄₁₆	⅞	+¹⁄₁₆
MacNSc	881	14⅛	13⅞	14	+⅛
Magellan	568	23	22½	22⅝	+⅛
MagPI wt	120	½	⁷⁄₁₆	½	—
MagnPet	140	3⅞	3⅝	3⅝	+¹⁄₁₆
MePS	179	20	19⅜	19⅜	—⅛
MedcR	232	9½	9⅜	9⅜	+¹⁄₁₆
Medeva	471	15⅝	15⅜	15⅜	—
Media	925	39	38⅝	38⅝	+⅜
MediaLog	157	6⅛	6	6⅛	+¹⁄₁₆
Medcore	133	5⅝	5⅜	5⅝	—
MercAir	199	9⅝	9⅛	9⅛	+¹⁄₁₆
Metromdo	971	12⅝	12½	12⅝	—⅛
MichAnl	157	3⅞	3⅝	3⅞	+⅛
Microtel	113	1¹⁵⁄₁₆	1⅞	1⅞	+¹⁄₁₆
MissnW	222	5	5	5	—
MoogA	227	18⅛	17⅞	17⅞	—⅛
MSNbk 97wt	501	8	7⅞	8	+⅛
MovieStr	148	¾	¾	¾	—
Muniln	151	8⅜	8⅜	8⅜	—⅛
Munvst	743	9⅝	9⅜	9⅜	+¹⁄₁₆
NFC	160	12⅝	11⅞	12⅝	+⅞
NTNCom	4746	4⅝	3⅝	4	—⅜
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	5703.83	5709.97	5652.53	5669.51	—14.09
Trans	2207.41	2218.38	2184.75	2215.21	+30.46
Util	215.97	216.18	212.90	213.95	—1.74
Comp	1853.68	1854.85	1840.78	1847.58	+4.85

Standard & Poors

	High	Low	Close	Chg.
Industrials	777.70	769.72	771.94	—1.94
Transp.	531.58	526.01	529.47	+0.78
Utilities	192.63	190.80	192.00	+0.92
Finance	66.50	65.82	65.99	—0.01
SP 500	656.18	649.80	651.69	—0.96
SP 100	634.99	628.82	630.76	—0.89

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	350.36	347.42	348.55	—0.23
Industrials	445.62	441.72	442.89	—0.79
Transp.	334.19	331.90	333.59	+1.80
Utility	245.67	243.89	245.18	+0.95
Finance	291.28	289.18	289.82	+0.19

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1118.31	1111.21	1112.36	—2.06
Industrials	1029.53	1023.41	1023.60	—2.86
Banks	1038.43	1035.36	1037.56	+0.49
Insurance	1308.67	1301.35	1308.67	+4.48
Finance	1270.66	1268.45	1269.64	+0.20
Transp.	892.36	885.85	890.83	+0.45

AMEX

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
	566.24	564.21	564.57	—0.21

Dow Jones Bond

	Close	Chg.
20 Bonds	103.46	+0.09
10 Utilities	99.75	—0.01
10 Industrials	107.16	+0.18

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
PhilMr	140673	92¼	85⅝	85⅝	—5⅝
K mart	90323	10⅛	9½	9⅝	—¾
MicrnT s	65517	35½	33	33⅝	—1¼
TelMex	48680	32⅝	30⅝	32¼	+1⅜
Merck	45531	63⅝	62	62	—¾
RJR pfC	41985	6⅛	5⅞	5⅞	—⅛
WalMart	41496	24⅝	23½	23⅝	—⅜
RJRNab s	40556	31⅛	29	29⅝	—1½
PacTel	37761	27⅝	26	26¼	—1¼
Disney	37213	67¼	64⅝	64⅞	—2
FordM	34213	34⅛	33⅜	33½	—⅛
HmeDep	33874	50⅜	48⅝	49⅝	—⅛
AT&T	33259	62¾	61⅝	61⅞	—
FedNM	31124	33	31¼	31⅞	—⅛
GnMotr	30942	54⅝	53¼	54⅝	+1⅛

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Iomega s	68396	24⅞	22	23¼	—½
Xelkan n	65564	25	19	20½	—
Cisco s	60343	49¼	47	48½	—⅛
Microsoft	57705	107¹⁄₁₆	104⅝	105⅞	+1⅛
Intel s	55203	59⅞	58⅝	58¾	—¾
Trimed	54685	10½	3⅞	10⅛	+6¹¹⁄₁₆
Altera	48043	18⅛	17⅝	17⅞	+⅛
ApldMat s	46740	38⅛	36½	36⅝	—1¹⁄₁₆
SunMic s	42148	47	45½	46⅝	—
Novell	39716	13½	13⅛	13¼	+⅛
NbleDr	37953	12⅛	10⅝	12	+1⅛
Atmel s	37403	29½	26¼	26½	—2½
Tellabs s	36994	52½	48⅝	51¾	+3
Cirrus s	31896	19⅝	18⅝	18⅝	—1⅛
WorldCm	31531	43⅝	42½	43⅝	+1⅛

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
TWA n	22466	18	17⅛	17¾	—⅛
Thmost n	15278	20	17½	18	—
Hearx n	10813	6⅞	5½	6⅞	—⅜
ViacB	9349	40⅛	39⅝	39⅝	—1⅛
TubMex	8943	8⅛	7¹³⁄₁₆	7¹³⁄₁₆	—⅛
Hasbro	8450	36⅞	36	36⅞	+1
SPDR	8433	66	65	65¹³⁄₁₆	—⅛
EchoBay	8170	13	12⅝	12⅞	+⅛
ElPasoE n	6920	5⅞	5⁹⁄₁₆	5⅝	—¹⁄₁₆
Ampex n	6212	6¹⁄₁₆	5⅝	5⅞	—⅛

Trading Activity

NYSE

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1294	1725
Declined	1092	736
Unchanged	729	684
Total issues	3115	3145
New Highs	151	139
New Lows	16	18

Nasdaq

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1833	2111
Declined	1850	1562
Unchanged	1688	1700
Total issues	5371	5373
New Highs	195	184
New Lows	49	48

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	293	326
Declined	286	239
Unchanged	208	180
Total issues	787	745
New Highs	26	22
New Lows	9	9

Market Sales

	Today Close	Prev. cons.
NYSE	438.33	536.27
Amex	25.67	26.06
Nasdaq	480.77	498.78

In millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
Allegiant Bncp	-	.025	3-29	4-15
Auburn Ntl Bncp	-	.10	3-22	3-29
Dvs Water Waste	-	.10	4-1	4-12
ElnVan MarathStk	-	.042	4-8	4-15
ElnVan Sp Eqult	-	.02	3-18	3-25
EatonVan Trd Stk	-	.06	4-15	4-30
Gt Nthn Iron	-	1.25	3-29	4-30
Mesa Royalty Tr	-	.3838	3-29	4-30
Oak Hill Fin	-	.05	3-20	4-22
RioCan REIT	g	.30	3-29	4-15
STOCK SPLIT				
Biospherics Inc 2 for 1 split subject to shareholder approval; pay date unannounced.				
Infinity Broadcast 3 for 2 split.				
STOCK				
Amr Bncp Nevada	-	15%	4-2	4-9
Fulton Fncl	-	10%	5-2	5-31
Royal Bncshrs	-	6%	4-18	5-10
INCREASED				
Bay Apartment	Q	.40	3-29	4-12
Chemical Banking	Q	.56	4-4	4-30
Wiston Financial	Q	.105	3-31	4-72
REGULAR				
AL Pharma	Q	.045	4-12	4-26
CIM HiYld Secur	M	.065	3-29	4-8
CNA Income	Q	.25	3-29	4-12
Depostry Fd Bostn	Q	.25	3-18	4-1
Detroit Cda	Q	.125	4-12	4-22
Dorchester Hug	Q	.17	3-37	4-19
EatonVan 2nd Fld	Q	.50	3-18	3-29
EtonVan Cap Ex	Q	.65	3-18	3-29
EtonVan Diversid	Q	.55	3-18	3-29
EtonVan Ex Bostn	Q	.75	3-18	3-29
EatonVan Fid Ex	Q	.55	3-18	3-29
EatonVan MuniBd	M	.05	4-1	4-15
Excel Realty	Q	.445	4-1	4-15
FelCor Suite	-	.46	4-1	4-30
First Defiance	-	.07	4-12	4-26
Fort Thomas	-	.0625	4-1	4-16
Hme BuildingBncp	Q	.075	4-8	4-22
Justin Indust	Q	.04	3-25	4-3
Keystone Cust B1	M	.065	3-25	4-4
Keystone Cust B2	M	.085	3-25	4-4
Keystone Cust S1	Q	.05	3-26	4-4
Kranzo Rlty	Q	.48	3-29	4-17
Matthews Intl	Q	.07	3-29	4-16
Natl FuelGas	Q	.405	3-29	4-15
Nw England Inv	Q	.48	3-31	5-15
S&T Bancorp	Q	.21	4-1	4-25
Transam Income	M	.16	3-29	4-15
VanceSand ExFd	Q	.85	4-1	4-15
Zweig Fund	Q	.28	4-12	4-26

a-annual; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.
a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c - liquidating dividend. cld - called. d - new yearly low. e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax. i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend. j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading. nd - next day delivery. P/E - price-earnings ratio. r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split. sls - sales. t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u - new yearly high. v - trading halted. vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. wd - when distributed. wi - when issued/ ww - with warrants. x - ex-dividend or ex-rights. xdis - ex-distribution. xw - without warrants. y- ex-dividend and sales in full. yld - yield. z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

March 19, 1996

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Grains					
CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel					
Mar 96	3.99	3.92¾	3.98¼	+0.04½	3,642
May 96	3.89½	3.83¾	3.85½	—0.00¼	193,503
Jul 96	3.77½	3.72½	3.73½	—0.01½	126,142
Sep 96	3.27	3.24	3.24¼	—0.02¼	27,449
Dec 96	3.15	3.11½	3.11¾	—0.02½	89,819
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 76,296					
Mon's open int 462,911 off 4093					
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 tons- dollars per ton					
Mar 96	224.50	220.50	220.50	—3.50	1,447
May 96	228.60	224.20	224.40	—4.00	39,662
Jul 96	231.80	227.60	227.90	—3.90	26,320
Aug 96	232.00	228.80	229.00	—3.20	5,323
Sep 96	231.00	228.90	229.00	—2.50	3,425
Oct 96	230.50	228.00	228.00	—2.80	3,014
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 25,683					
Mon's open int 88,033 up 1806					
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT) 60,000 lbs- dollars per 100 lbs.					
Mar 96	24.35	24.08	24.12	—0.18	871
May 96	24.60	24.30	24.33	—0.25	33,936
Jul 96	24.95	24.69	24.70	—0.22	25,583
Aug 96	25.11	24.89	24.90	—0.21	6,561
Sep 96	25.28	25.07	25.08	—0.20	4,497
Oct 96	25.35	25.20	25.23	—0.18	2,888
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 9,801					
Mon's open int 83,390 off 1915					
SOYBEANS (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel					
Mar 96	7.18	7.06½	7.06¾	—0.11¼	1,288
May 96	7.26¾	7.15	7.15¼	—0.11	68,563
Jul 96	7.34	7.23	7.23½	—0.10½	51,454
Aug 96	7.34	7.24	7.24¼	—0.10½	7,531
Sep 96	7.26½	7.19	7.19	—0.06	3,727
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 51,556					
Mon's open int 193,160 off 833					
WHEAT (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel					
Mar 96	5.07	4.98	5.07	+0.05	1,304
May 96	4.74	4.68	4.69¼	—0.04½	26,365
Jul 96	4.46½	4.41½	4.43¾	+0.01½	43,148
Sep 96	4.50	4.46	4.47¾	+0.01¼	8,487
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 19,255					
Mon's open int 96,487 up 9411					
Livestock					
CATTLE (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 96	65.20	64.65	64.97	—0.28	26,124
Jun 96	64.30	63.85	64.27	—0.08	29,237
Aug 96	63.25	62.85	63.12	—0.08	15,118
Oct 96	63.97	63.72	63.95	—0.02	10,759
Dec 96	62.77	62.55	62.67	—0.05	4,009
Feb 97	62.72	62.57	62.62	—0.05	3,189
Est. sales 12,704 Mon's. sales 9,586					
Mon's open int 90,671 up 485					
FEEDER CATTLE (CMER) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Mar 96	57.00	56.77	56.87	—0.35	3,689
Apr 96	58.25	57.80	57.97	—0.13	3,482
May 96	59.10	58.47	59.05	+0.23	5,943
Aug 96	59.50	59.10	59.50	+0.05	6,004
Sep 96	59.60	59.30	59.50	—0.07	1,192
Oct 96	59.85	59.50	59.65	+0.10	1,510
Est. sales 2,974 Mon's. sales 3,236					
Mon's open int 22,653 off 337					
HOGS-Live(2/97 Lean) (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 96	49.80	49.27	49.67	—0.30	10,943
Jun 96	53.95	53.27	53.87	+0.05	14,448
Jul 96	51.90	51.10	51.72	+0.32	3,493
Aug 96	49.40	48.45	49.07	+0.30	4,426
Oct 96	45.60	45.22	45.57	+0.45	2,928
Dec 96	46.80	46.45	46.50		1,630
Est. sales 6,930 Mon's. sales 7,255					
Mon's open int 38,480 up 1008					
PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Mar 96	68.90	67.00	68.90	+0.35	343
May 96	67.75	66.40	67.42	—0.53	6,495
Jul 96	65.00	63.80	64.55	—0.80	2,513
Aug 96	61.20	60.55	60.77	—0.43	758
Feb 97	61.30	60.85	60.95	—0.22	100
Mar 97	61.50	61.00	61.00	+0.30	6
Est. sales 2,779 Mon's. sales 2,482					
Mon's open int 10,215 off 56					
Food					
COCOA (NCSE) 10 metric tons- $ per ton					
May 96	1238	1227	1237	+14	36,180
Jul 96	1262	1251	1262	+14	22,052
Sep 96	1284	1275	1284	+12	12,457
Dec 96	1319	1310	1318	+11	13,670
Mar 97	1347	1344	1347	+10	7,658
Est. sales 7,660 Mon's. sales 4,529					
Mon's open int 98,252 off 263					
COFFEE C (NCSE) 37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Mar 96	127.50	124.50	124.50	—2.70	392
May 96	120.20	118.20	119.05	—1.80	16,672
Jul 96	118.60	116.80	117.60	—1.75	5,222
Sep 96	117.30	116.30	116.60	—1.85	3,603
Est. sales 5,896 Mon's. sales 6,884					
Mon's open int 27,983 up 749					
SUGAR-WORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 96	12.49	12.32	12.46	+0.05	64,951
Jul 96	11.13	11.04	11.11	+0.03	39,442
Oct 96	10.72	10.67	10.71	+0.02	27,468
Mar 97	10.43	10.39	10.41		14,985
Est. sales 16,999 Mon's. sales 15,457					
Mon's open int 152,766 off 318					
ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 96	133.85	130.00	131.80	—2.45	17,157
Jul 96	132.50	130.60	130.80	—2.60	4,089
Sep 96	130.00	128.25	128.25	—2.25	2,151
Nov 96	126.10	126.10	125.00	—2.25	884
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 967					
Mon's open int 27,195 up 308					
Metals					
GOLD (NCMX) 100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Mar 96			395.40	—0.30	2
Apr 96	396.50	395.50	396.00	—0.30	69,660
May 96			397.30	—0.30	2
Jun 96	399.40	398.50	399.00	—0.30	30,989
Aug 96	401.90	401.30	401.60	—0.30	12,685
Oct 96			404.20	—0.30	5,137
Dec 96	407.50	406.90	406.80	—0.30	15,229
Feb 97			409.50	—0.30	4,805
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 34,354					
Mon's open int 198,722 off 5777					
HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX) 25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Mar 96	118.50	117.45	117.70	—0.90	2,519
Apr 96	117.80	117.38	117.55	—1.30	2,652
May 96	118.05	116.20	116.85	—1.20	20,209
Jun 96	115.70	115.05	115.50	—0.95	861
Jul 96	114.80	113.80	114.50	—0.75	4,890
Aug 96	113.75	113.75	113.65	—0.65	439
Sep 96	112.70	112.70	112.70	—0.60	2,856
Oct 96			111.80	—0.50	434
Nov 96			111.00	—0.50	316
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 4,462					
Mon's open int 42,574 up 108					
SILVER (NCMX) 5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.					
Mar 96	554.0	550.5	550.4	—3.0	104
Apr 96			551.9	—3.0	2
May 96	557.5	553.5	554.0	—3.0	52,657
Jul 96	561.0	558.0	558.3	—3.0	13,982
Sep 96	564.0	563.0	562.8	—3.2	11,039
Dec 96	573.5	569.0	569.9	—3.4	7,496
Jan 97			572.9	—3.4	3
Mar 97			577.4	—3.4	3,163
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 10,527					
Mon's open int 91,712 off 1254					
PLATINUM (NMER) 50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Apr 96	414.50	413.00	413.00	—0.10	11,243
Jul 96	417.50	416.00	416.00	—0.20	8,483
Oct 96	419.50	419.50	418.50	—0.20	1,935
Jan 97			421.30	—0.20	762
Apr 97			424.00	—0.20	360
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 1,362					
Mon's open int 22,783 off 256					

LONDON METALS (LME) Dollars per metric ton

	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1604.00	1605.00	1602.00	1603.00
Forward	1636.00	1637.00	1634.00	1634½
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	2544½	2546½	2559.00	2561.00
Forward	2537.00	2538.00	2544.00	2545.00
Lead				
Spot	924.00	925.00	883.00	886.00
Forward	828.00	829.00	808.00	809.00
Nickel				
Spot	8120.00	8130.00	8010.00	8025.00
Forward	8220.00	8230.00	8120.00	8130.00
Tin				
Spot	6245.00	6255.00	6160.00	6170.00
Forward	6285.00	6290.00	6195.00	6200.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1066½	1067½	1072.00	1073.00
Forward	1090.00	1091.00	1095.00	1096.00

Financial

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
US T. BILLS (CMER) $1 million- pts of 100 pct.					
Mar 96	95.03	94.99	95.00	—0.03	2,614
Jun 96	95.01	94.99	95.01	+0.02	9,689
Sep 96	94.84	94.78	94.81	+0.03	2,839
Dec 96			94.61	+0.06	78
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 2,702					
Mon's open int 15,220 up 285					
5 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Mar 96	107-07	106-295	107-015	+ 035	8,143
Jun 96	106-255	106-12	106-195	+ 035	194,933
Sep 96	106-145	106-115	106-125	+ 03	8,081
Est. sales 49,300 Mon's. sales 45,227					
Mon's open int 211,157 off 2732					
10 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Mar 96	109-19	109-04	109-10	+ 05	21,406
Jun 96	108-29	108-11	108-19	+ 05	257,865
Sep 96	108-21	108-10	108-11	+ 05	13,440
Est. sales 73,337 Mon's. sales 57,087					
Mon's open int 292,943 off 2838					
US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)					
Mar 96	112-05	111-14	111-20		27,267
Jun 96	111-22	110-28	111-04	- 01	350,297
Sep 96	111-04	110-14	110-20	- 01	14,133
Dec 96	110-18	110-03	110-04	- 02	2,768
Est. sales 305,000 Mon's. sales 244,080					
Mon's open int 397,418 off 10325					
LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Mar 96	106-00	105-23	105-19	— 0-12	5,212
Jun 96	105-07	104-21	104-23	— 0-10	113,598
Sep 96	N.T.	N.T.	103-20	— 0-10	
Est. sales: 35,464. Prev. sales: 30,768					
Prev. open int.: 118,889 off 5,927					
GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE) DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 96	95.59	95.25	95.30	— 0.08	226,164
Sep 96	94.60	94.42	94.45	— 0.08	3,776
Est. sales: 113,895. Prev. sales: 103,948					
Prev. open int.: 229,940 off 1,718					
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 96	109.00	108.37	108.45	— 0.22	50,703
Sep 96	N.T.	N.T.	107.90	— 0.22	0
Est. sales: 33,342. Prev. sales: 27,660					
Prev. open int.: 50,703 off 2,379					
10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 96	120.78	120.50	120.76	+ 0.20	
Sep 96	119.50	119.32	119.56	— 0.20	
Dec 97	118.38	118.18	118.40	+ 0.16	
Est. volume: 98,056. Open int.: 136,353.					
EURODOLLARS (CMER) $1 million-pts of 100 pct.					
Apr 96	94.580	94.550	94.560		18,362
May 96	94.560	94.530	94.540	+ 10	3,796
Jun 96	94.540	94.500	94.510	- 10	426,299
Sep 96	94.370	94.280	94.330	+ 20	324,713
Dec 96	94.150	94.040	94.100	+ 40	308,712
Mar 97	93.990	93.880	93.930	+ 20	207,525
Jun 97	93.870	93.790	93.820	+ 20	181,471
Sep 97	93.760	93.690	93.720	- 20	154,490
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 409,738					
Mon's open int 2,581,586 off 5026					
BRITISH POUND (CMER) 62,500 pounds, $ per pound					
Jun 96	1.5318	1.5270	1.5312	- 2	34,400
Sep 96	1.5302	1.5260	1.5292	- 2	34
Dec 96			1.5272	+ 2	32
Est. sales 5,311 Mon's. sales 12,398					
Mon's open int 60,072 off 2045					
CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER) 100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr					
Jun 96	.7376	.7355	.7357	— 7	31,844
Sep 96	.7372	.7360	.7358	— 6	1,175
Dec 96	.7370	.7360	.7358	— 3	1,433
Mar 97			.7358		227
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 18,499					
Mon's open int 44,111 up 4816					
GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 marks, $ per mark					
Jun 96	.6821	.6788	.6817	+ 7	54,718
Sep 96	.6855	.6828	.6854	- 7	2,043
Dec 96	.6885	.6875	.6891	+ 7	193
Mar 97			.6926	+ 7	8
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 16,713					
Mon's open int 82,097 off 1488					
JAPANESE YEN (CMER) 12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen					
Jun 96	.009550	.009506	.009528	— 21	55,506
Sep 96	.009648	.009625	.009645	— 22	1,091
Dec 96			.009763	— 23	620
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 11,190					
Mon's open int 72,327 off 972					
SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 francs, $ per franc					
Jun 96	.8480	.8437	.8476	+ 4	25,940
Sep 96	.8554	.8517	.8552	+ 5	483
Dec 96			.8627	+ 5	502
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 9,196					
Mon's open int 40,314 off 2361					
3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) £500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Mar 96	93.87	93.86	93.87	+ 0.01	51,495
Jun 96	93.94	93.92	93.93	+ 0.01	75,532
Sep 96	93.74	93.70	93.71	— 0.01	58,438
Dec 96	93.43	93.37	93.39	Unch.	48,253
Mar 97	93.04	92.98	92.99	Unch.	32,776
Jun 97	92.68	92.63	92.63	Unch.	30,925
Sep 97	92.39	92.33	92.35	+ 0.01	23,239
Dec 97	92.18	92.12	92.13	Unch.	14,036
Mar 98	91.98	91.93	91.95	+ 0.02	9,281
Jun 98	91.85	91.80	91.81	+ 0.01	6,974
Sep 98	91.73	91.68	91.70	+ 0.03	5,840
Dec 98	91.64	91.60	91.61	+ 0.03	7,636
Est. sales: 32,631. Prev. sales: 28,228					
Prev. open int.: 364,445 off 2,633					
3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE) DM1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Mar 96	96.72	96.69	96.71	Unch.	224,381
Jun 96	96.54	96.48	96.52	Unch.	225,571
Sep 96	96.22	96.17	96.21	Unch.	175,898
Dec 96	95.86	95.79	95.83	— 0.01	117,498
Mar 97	95.49	95.42	95.46	+ 0.01	98,133
Jun 97	95.11	95.05	95.10	+ 0.02	85,199
Sep 97	94.74	94.69	94.73	+ 0.03	51,956
Dec 97	94.42	94.38	94.41	+ 0.02	26,285
Mar 98	94.15	94.09	94.13	+ 0.03	20,457
Jun 98	93.87	93.81	93.85	+ 0.04	15,541
Sep 98	93.57	93.52	93.56	+ 0.04	12,793
Mar 99	93.31	93.24	93.31	+ 0.07	0
Est. sales: 103,052. Prev. sales: 105,981					
Prev. open int.: 1,179,386 up 6,878					
3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 96	90.78	90.68	90.72	Unch.	38,802
Sep 96	91.09	90.99	91.01	— 0.04	19,700
Dec 96	91.10	91.00	91.03	— 0.02	15,510
Mar 97	91.01	90.87	90.92	— 0.02	6,798
Jun 97	90.89	90.80	90.81	— 0.04	3,388
Sep 97	90.75	90.69	90.71	+ 0.01	0
Est. sales: 18,122. Prev. sales: 27,095					
Prev. open int.: 109,300 up 8,874					
3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF)					
Jun 96	95.64	95.58	95.61	+ 0.07	
Sep 96	95.52	95.46	95.49	+ 0.05	
Dec 96	95.35	95.31	95.34	+ 0.04	
Mar 97	95.17	95.11	95.12	+ 0.01	
Jun 97	94.86	94.85	94.85	+ 0.01	
Sep 97	94.59	94.58	94.59	+ 0.02	
Dec 97	94.38	94.35	94.38	+ 0.02	
Mar 98	94.18	94.15	94.18	+ 0.04	
Est. volume: 41,194. Open int.: 164,294.					
Industrials					
COTTON 2 (NCTN) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 96	84.84	83.85	83.90	—0.74	20,602
Jul 96	85.60	84.75	84.85	—0.60	11,482
Oct 96	81.50	80.50	80.65	—0.85	3,550
Dec 96	79.88	79.20	79.35	—0.18	17,856
Mar 97	80.50	80.27	80.35	—0.15	1,892
HEATING OIL (NMER) 42,000 gal- cents per gal					
Apr 96	62.75	60.10	62.10	- 1.82	22,959
May 96	55.25	53.90	54.90	- 0.65	17,952
Jun 96	51.90	51.10	51.60	- 0.19	11,930
Jul 96	51.00	50.45	50.65	+ 0.04	8,850
Aug 96	51.10	50.65	51.00	- 0.29	7,833
Sep 96			51.50	- 0.24	3,022
Oct 96	51.80	51.75	51.80	- 0.04	2,432
Nov 96	52.35	52.25	52.30	- 0.04	3,363
Dec 96	53.00	52.75	52.85	- 0.04	7,836
Jan 97	53.20	53.05	53.05	—0.01	3,290
May 97	81.25	80.87	81.05	—0.05	815
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 39,462					
Mon's open int 91,377 off 1524					
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER) 1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl					
Apr 96	24.64	21.77	24.25	+ 0.98	39,743
May 96	21.03	20.55	20.80	+ 0.07	96,653
Jun 96	19.71	19.08	19.53		61,905
Jul 96	18.95	18.66	18.70	—0.13	46,567
Aug 96	18.52	18.36	18.44	—0.02	25,695
Sep 96	18.24	18.12	18.15	+0.01	20,415
Oct 96	18.06	17.86	18.00	—0.05	13,901
Nov 96	17.84	17.70	17.81	—0.03	14,447
Dec 96	17.82	17.40	17.67	+0.03	30,978
Jan 97	17.68	17.60	17.66	- 0.11	19,585
Feb 97	17.59	17.59	17.59	+ 0.13	8,036
Mar 97	17.52	17.35	17.52	+ 0.14	4,797
Apr 97	17.44	17.40	17.40	+ 0.10	2,496
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 147,223					
Mon's open int 440,382 up 5396					
NATURAL GAS (NMER) 10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu					
Apr 96	2.630	2.425	2.510	— 1	26,213
May 96	2.455	2.280	2.325	—24	26,884
Jun 96	2.260	2.140	2.165		17,964
Jul 96	2.145	2.050	2.090	+ 20	13,969
Aug 96	2.070	2.005	2.040	+ 14	13,683
Sep 96	2.010	1.960	1.980		10,905
Oct 96	2.000	1.960	1.985	- 5	8,853
Nov 96	2.070	2.040	2.052		6,100
Dec 96	2.190	2.150	2.170	- 10	9,839
Jan 97	2.210	2.180	2.185	- 7	3,766
Feb 97	2.150	2.100	2.135	+ 14	3,060
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 44,509					
Mon's open int 160,176 up 5454					
UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER) 42,000 gal- cents per gal					
Apr 96	65.20	63.70	65.05	+ 0.74	26,475
May 96	64.10	62.90	63.80	- 0.49	25,753
Jun 96	62.05	61.25	61.90	+ 0.47	8,475
Jul 96	59.65	59.05	59.60	- 0.35	6,932
Aug 96	57.55	57.05	57.40	- 0.25	4,005
Sep 96	55.40	55.25	55.40	+ 0.25	1,498
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 26,222					
Mon's open int 74,030 up 578					
GASOIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons					
Apr 96	178.50	173.50	177.00	+ 2.25	25,594
May 96	167.25	165.00	165.25	—0.50	18,391
Jun 96	161.25	159.50	160.00	—0.75	9,265
July 96	158.50	156.75	157.00	—1.25	4,777
Aug 96	157.00	156.50	156.25	—1.25	4,040
Sep 96	157.50	156.25	156.25	—0.50	1,708
Oct 96	N.T.	N.T.	157.75	—0.50	1,129
Nov 96	N.T.	N.T.	158.50	—1.00	679
Dec 96	160.00	159.00	158.75	—1.50	5,725
Est. sales: 18,540. Open int.: 59,867; up 2,526.					
BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels					
May 96	18.92	18.60	18.61	—0.24	74,478
June 96	18.00	17.74	17.76	—0.22	30,173
July 96	17.37	17.05	17.05	—0.34	37,947
Aug 96	17.80	16.93	16.75	—0.33	11,287
Sep 96	16.85	16.73	16.55	—0.31	12,093
Oct 96	N.T.	N.T.	16.39	—0.31	3,458
Nov 96	16.54	16.54	16.26	—0.32	2,353
Dec 96	16.42	16.42	16.14	—0.32	8,387
Jan 97	16.32	16.30	16.04	—0.32	8,735
Feb 97	16.24	16.24	15.96	—0.32	3,467
Mar 97	N.T.	N.T.	15.89	—0.32	387
Est. sales: 42,971. Open int.: 192,766 up 2,718					

Stock Indexes

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
S&P COMP. INDEX (CMER) 500 x index					
Jun 96	664.50	655.25	657.80	—1.70	182,441
Sep 96	670.20	661.00	663.30	—2.00	4,536
Dec 96	675.70	668.00	675.50	- 4.40	2,352
Mar 98	681.20	674.00	681.00	- 4.00	
Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 100,214					
Mon's open int 189,329 off 52614					
FTSE 100 (LIFFE) £25 per index point					
Jun 96	3718.0	3681.0	3688.0	+ 26.0	62,851
Sep 96	N.T.	N.T.	3704.0	+ 26.0	2,340
Est. sales: 16,469. Prev. sales: 7,747					
Prev. open int.: 65,191 off 229					
CAC 40 (MATIF) FF200 per index point					
Apr 96	1991.0	1972.0	1975.0	+ 2.00	
May 96	1993.0	1975.0	1978.5	+ 2.00	
Jun 96	1978.0	1977.5	1970.0	+ 2.00	
Sep 96	1968.5	1949.5	1952.5	+ 2.00	
Dec 96	1973.0	1962.0	1964.0	+ 2.00	
Est. volume: 20,037. Open int.: 58,444.					

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	1,497.70	1,494.00
Reuters	2,130.70	2,138.50
D.J. Futures	149.60	150.87
CRB	249.90	248.01

ASIA/PACIFIC

Japan's GDP Rise Stirs Some Hope For Its Recovery

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — The economy grew more rapidly than expected in the last three months of 1995 as consumers spent more and the government stepped up public spending, a government report indicated Tuesday.

Gross domestic product, the total value of output within a country's borders, grew 0.9 percent in the fourth quarter from the previous three-month period, the Economic Planning Agency said, and was 2.5 percent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1994.

"The stage is set for a recovery led by private investment and spending," Makoto Kobayashi, a deputy minister at the agency, said.

Consumer spending rose 0.4 percent from the previous quarter, housing investment increased 7.2 percent, and capital investment by industry rose 1.4 percent.

Government spending on public works jumped 6.9 percent.

Japan is emerging from its worst postwar recession, assisted by government stimulus programs, record low interest rates and a decline in the value of the yen. The government announced in September a 14 trillion yen ($132.1 billion) stimulus package, most of which was directed at public works.

"It's an encouraging report," Russell Jones of Lehman Brothers Japan Inc. said. "The chances of a sustained recovery are better now than at any time since 1991."

The Nikkei stock average rose 157.47 points, to 20,442.60. But not all analysts were sure the GDP figures indicated Japan's recovery was accelerating.

Andrew Shipley, an economist at Schroder Securities Ltd., said he did not think the report was "indicative of the pace of recovery."

Soichi Okuda, senior economist at Nippon Credit Bank Ltd., said that apart from the effects of the increase in public-works spending, "the economy is still quite weak."

Mr. Shipley said the issue was not whether Japan's economy was recovering but simply the pace of the recovery. He cited recent disappointing economic reports that he says will continue to weigh on the economy.

Last week the Japanese government released revised industrial production figures showing that output had not grown in January from December. A preliminary report showed a 0.5 percent increase.

The Bank of Japan's latest quarterly *tankan* survey of economic indicators also found lingering signs of pessimism among Japanese business people.

Sentiment indexes in the survey, which polls 10,000 managers across Japan, improved only marginally, and results showed managers were still feeling bogged down by bloated payrolls and inventories.

GDP growth for all of 1995 improved from the previous year, reaching 0.9 percent. But it was the third year in a row Japan had failed to achieve growth of at least 1.0 percent.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Stone Group Links With Japan Firms

Reuters

BEIJING — Stone Group Co. said Tuesday that its semiconductor venture with Mitsubishi Electric Corp. and Mitsui & Co. could involve a total investment of $1.6 billion.

The accord, signed Monday, calls for launching the $100 million first phase of the venture in June 1997, an executive of the private Chinese high-technology company said. The first stage of the project will be the production of integrated-circuit chips.

The companies plan to follow up with a $1.5 billion second phase to be completed after the turn of the century, the Stone executive said.

Mitsubishi would hold a 60 percent stake in the project, Stone Group 30 percent and Mitsui the remaining 10 percent, the executive said.

Stone's other foreign ventures have included a software-development deal with Microsoft Corp. and a computer-manufacturing pact with Compaq Computer Corp.

Delhi Bemoans Tourist Jam

India Has Fewer Hotel Rooms Than Las Vegas

Reuters

NEW DELHI — When India rolled out the red carpet for its 2 millionth foreign tourist in 1995, the only furrowed brows amid popping champagne corks belonged to people in the hotel industry.

Managers are wringing their hands as tourists struggle to cram themselves into the country's overflowing hotels. They say the situation will not improve unless the government changes laws to help hotels develop.

Rabindra Seth, a tourism analyst, said: "We've got 58,000 rooms in India at present, and at this rate we'll need 125,000 by the turn of the century. But we have only 31,000 in the pipeline."

"As of this moment, Delhi is 10,000 rooms short of demand," added Mr. Seth, who works as a consultant to ITC Hotels Ltd., one of India's largest hotel chains.

It takes three years to plan and build large hotels, and there are virtually no new hotels on the horizon, Mr. Seth said, adding that tourists were likely to skip a stop in India rather than struggle to find a place to sleep.

He said cities such as Bangkok and Hong Kong each had as many hotel rooms as the whole country of India.

"Las Vegas has 90,000," he said. "It gives you an idea of what we need to do."

Mr. Seth said few politicians in India, for decades a socialist economy, had thought of aggressively marketing one of the world's oldest civilizations to tourists as a way of earning badly needed foreign currency.

"In the old socialist syndrome, tourism was considered an elitist activity," he said. "And even when politicians thought it was important, they were afraid to go public. The benefits take long and are widely diffused or intangible."

When Indira Gandhi, who was prime minister at the time, offered Delhi as the venue of the 1982 Asian Games, the capital had only 3,500 hotel rooms.

By the time the games came, "she ensured that the number of rooms had doubled," Mr. Seth said. "But after that, not a single hotel was opened in Delhi in 10 years."

Hotel-franchise agreements with foreign companies, previously banned, were allowed in the 1980s, and foreign participation in hotel management was only permitted as recently as 1994. S. Vasudeva, who heads the Chamber of Commerce and Industry's committee on tourism, said: "The message is simple. The growth in hotels has not kept pace with the reforms which have triggered the inflow of visitors to the country."

India began an economic program in 1991 that has attracted billions of dollars in foreign investment. But Mr. Seth said Indian hotels were far too dependent on business travelers with deep pockets.

"The preponderance of business travel will plateau out because numbers will remain fairly steady," he said.

"The real business is in tourists. That is what we have to focus on now."

But high-priced five-star hotels dominate Indian tourism, driving potential tourists away. Four of India's five-star chains house more than a quarter of its tourists, while smaller lodges must charge high rates to cover expensive real-estate leases.

Mr. Seth said land leases for hotels should be priced on a graded system.

"Charge a one-star hotel one rate and a five-star hotel another," he said. "Otherwise, there is absolutely no incentive to run a budget hotel."

Many hotel-industry analysts say the main roadblocks to building hotels in Delhi and elsewhere are bureaucracy and land laws.

The government, which owns most of Delhi's land, allows no hotels to be built in residential areas.

Prospective hoteliers must negotiate a labyrinth of state regulations before they can build.

"You have to knock at literally 30 windows in Delhi before you can start building," Mr. Seth said. "It's often not worth it."

Mr. Seth said he hoped India's liberalization agenda, which includes abolishing state monopolies over power, roads and telecommunications, would draw more tourists to India.

"I put my faith in liberalization," he said. "We used to think tourists would never come because we don't have roads, telephones, electricity and transport. But now, all this privatization is bound to have an immediate impact on tourism.

"Mrs. Gandhi showed us that if you have political will, it can be done tomorrow. Someone has to get up and say, 'There shall be hotels,' and there will be."

China Balks on Shipments of U.S. Wheat

Reuters

BEIJING — American wheat sales to China appeared to be in doubt Tuesday after Beijing denied it had accepted U.S. assurances that 2.1 million metric tons of American wheat it had bought were free of a rare fungus.

U.S. officials said Beijing had agreed to an interim compromise under which China would allow imports of wheat deemed by U.S. inspectors to be from areas free of the karnal bunt fungus.

Karnal bunt was found in two certified durum wheat seed lots from Arizona, prompting the U.S. Department of Agriculture on March 8 to block U.S. exporters from shipping $120 million of wheat to 21 countries.

China does not buy durum wheat, and no U.S. wheat shipped to China was from Arizona, officials said.

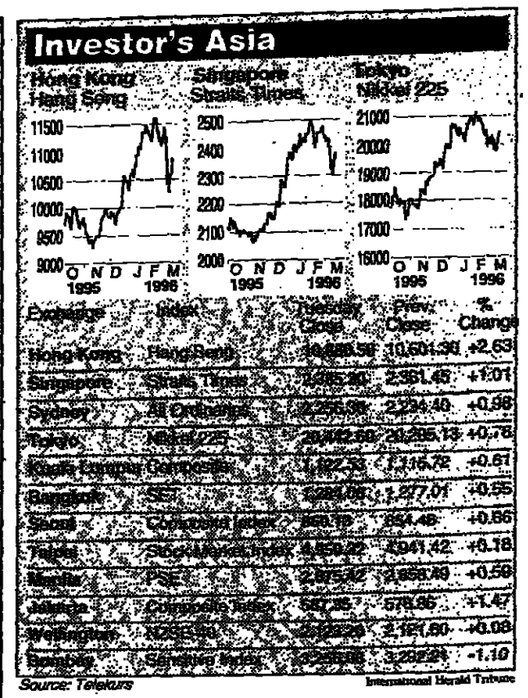
Washington halted exports because it could not guarantee the U.S. crop was free from karnal bunt fungus as export certificates stated.

Subsequent negotiations resulted in many countries agreeing to accept reworded certificates saying their American wheat imports had come from growing areas guaranteed to be free of karnal bunt.

A U.S. official in Beijing said he had negotiated a similar accord Monday with Huang Guansheng of China's Administration of Animal and Plant Quarantine.

But Mr. Huang denied that an agreement had been reached and said consultations were still under way.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	10,888.58	10,604.36	+2.63
Singapore	Straits Times	2,385.48	2,361.48	+1.01
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,256.80	2,234.40	+0.98
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	20,442.60	20,285.13	+0.78
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,192.58	1,185.72	+0.61
Bangkok	SET	1,888.80	1,877.01	+0.55
Seoul	Composite Index	900.19	894.48	+0.56
Taipei	Stock Exchange Index	4,859.22	4841.42	+0.18
Manila	PSE	2,875.47	2,860.89	+0.50
Jakarta	Composite Index	587.95	579.56	+1.47
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,165.29	2,161.60	+0.08
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,255.98	3,293.24	-1.10

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• **British Telecommunications PLC** bought **Bell Canada's** 25 percent stake in **Clear Communications Ltd.** to try to bolster its presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

• **Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.** bought the 25 percent of Cathay Pacific Catering Services it did not already own from **Hong Kong & Shanghai Hotels Ltd.**; the price was not disclosed.

• **China Airlines Co.** of Taiwan's 1995 pretax profit nearly doubled, to 1.28 billion dollars ($46.6 million), mainly from its sale of its stake in Far East Air, a domestic carrier. China Airlines also said it would lease six **Boeing Co.** 737-400 passenger jets to replace two Airbus-320 and four B737-200 jets.

• **Thai Airways International Ltd.** signed a contract to buy six 777B-300 planes from Boeing for $1.05 billion, with delivery scheduled for August 1998.

• **NEC Corp.** of Japan and **Samsung Electronics Co.** of South Korea agreed to conduct joint research on production technology at semiconductor factories to try to reduce the cost of making microchips.

• **Japan's** semiconductor buyers made a record 29.6 percent of their purchases from foreign manufacturers in the fourth quarter of 1995, up from a 26.2 percent market share in the third quarter, the office of the U.S. trade representative said.

• **Tokai Bank Ltd.** of Japan said it would shut its U.S. trust-banking unit next year as part of a restructuring plan.

• **Intel Corp.** plans to open a $500 million production line, its eighth, at its factory in Penang, Malaysia, in 1997.

• **Triton Energy Corp.** of the United States plans to invest as much as $30 million in the next year in drilling operations off the Chinese coast.

• **Hong Kong's** government said its Building Department approved 37 building plans in January, unchanged from December but down 35 percent from January 1995, indicating that new construction remains sluggish.

AP, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, AFP, AFX, Reuters

ARMS: *Weapons Vendors Look South in Effort to Raise Sales*

Continued from Page 13

curity with limited funds. The United States brought the largest contingent to the weapons show this year. American weapons contractors, in fact, said that for the first time, Defense Department officials had encouraged them to attend the event and had provided the contractors with valuable assistance in transporting goods to be displayed.

The Defense Department brought a B-2 bomber, two A/F18 fighter planes, two F-16 fighter planes, a C-17 transport and various other military aircraft. Defense Secretary William J. Perry and Transportation Secretary Federico F. Peña were among the top American officials who attended the show.

Mr. Perry said that with the end of the Cold War, the United States was considering waiving some of the rules that restricted Latin American countries from buying advanced weapons.

Russia, which demonstrated a variety of military aircraft at the 1994 show, returned without wings this year, saying that financial constraints had forced it to concentrate on selling ground weapons such as multiple rocket launchers, tanks and small arms.

"We believe that Latin America represents several billion dollars' worth of new business, but we may have to wait a few years for it to materialize," said Aleksey Koudriashov, a spokesman for Russia's state corporation for the export and import of military equipment. "But we will keep coming back."

RADIO: *Digital Broadcasting*

Continued from Page 13

in with equal strength to both mobile and stationary sets. By broadcasting in bits rather than waves and using compression technology, the signals actually gain in strength as they bounce off buildings instead of disappearing, said David Witherow, director of the digital audio broadcasting project for the BBC.

In a moving car, for example, there is no need to fine-tune the station when the signal switches to another frequency. By 1998, when the British network of transmitters is completed, it will be possible to hear clearly the same station all the way through a drive from London to Edinburgh — and the new service, unlike the new satellite-delivered stations that are beamed directly into the home, will not require a special dish for their reception.

Rudimentary experiments with digital audio broadcasting started 10 years ago, but it was only last autumn that the BBC launched its pilot program in the London area. Apart from the previously existing BBC channels, the service is transmitting BBC Now, an information channel with a rolling sequence of news, weather and sports that is updated every 10 minutes. Denmark, Sweden and Italy are expected to start tests of digital audio broadcasting tests within a year.

The first receivers are scheduled to be available for the mass market around August 1997, according to Mr. Witherow. So far, the prototypes are expensive. In Germany, the receivers now cost as much as 4,000 Deutsche marks ($2,720), but Mr. Witherow predicted that the cost would drop to about 1,000 DM by the time the receivers were commercially available.

One significant drawback is that the digital receivers require so much power that the initial units will not be able to include AM-FM reception. A combination DAB-AM-FM receiver will probably not be available until 1998, Mr. Witherow said.

"In the United States, commercial broadcasters are resisting the acceptance of the European standards for DAB mainly because they do not want new competition," he said.

Despite the technical marvels digital audio broadcasting is expected to offer, European commercial networks have also been skeptical.

"The main advantage of radio is that it is not visual, that it does not immobilize the eyes," said Pierre Bellanger, chief executive of Skyrock, a French popular-music station. Mr. Bellanger and other commercial operators have said they doubt the general public would be willing to purchase digital audio broadcasting receivers unless the price fell to the equivalent of $100. Mr. Bellanger said there would be little incentive for listeners to pay for the innovations offered by the new system.

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R.C. No B 20095

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of Fidelity Special Growth Fund, a société d'investissement à capital variable organised under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (the "Company"), will be held at the registered office of the Company, Kansallis House, Place de l'Etoile, Luxembourg, at 11:00 a.m. on March 28, 1996, specifically, but without limitation, for the following purposes:

1. Presentation of the Report of the Board of Directors.
2. Presentation of the Report of the Auditor.
3. Approval of the balance sheet and income statement for the fiscal year ended November 30, 1995.
4. Discharge of the Board of Directors and the Auditor.
5. Election of six (6) Directors, specifically the re-election of Messrs. Edward C. Johnson 3rd, Barry R. J. Bateman, Charles T.M. Collis, Charles A. Fraser, Jean Hamilius and H. F. van den Hoven, being all of the present Directors.
6. Election of the Auditor, specifically the election of Coopers & Lybrand, Luxembourg.
7. Declaration of a cash dividend in respect of the fiscal year ended November 30, 1995.
8. Consideration of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Approval of items 1 through 8 of the agenda will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present or represented at the meeting with no minimum number of shares present or represented in order for a quorum to be present.

Subject to the limitations imposed by the Articles of Incorporation of the Company with regard to ownership of shares which constitute in the aggregate more than three percent (3%) of the outstanding shares, each share is entitled to one vote. A shareholder may act at any meeting by proxy.

Dated: February 28, 1996
By Order of the Board of Directors

Fidelity Investments

INTERNATIONAL BANK ALBARAKA KAZAKHSTAN
ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND NAME CHANGE

On 26th February 1996, Sheikh Saleh Kamel (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia) and Dallah AlBaraka Holding Co. (Bahrain) sold their 50% shares of International Bank AlBaraka Kazakhstan to MDMT GROUP (Ontario, Canada) and the Joint-Stock Co. "LUKoil Kazakhstan" (Almaty, Kazakhstan).

For a limited period, until the completion of the re-registration process, the Bank will operate under its current name. However, it is now neither owned by nor affiliated with Sheikh Saleh Kamel, Dallah AlBaraka Holding Co. or any other entity of the Dallah AlBaraka Group.

Current Shareholders of the Bank:	Previous Shareholders of the Bank:
International Trade House Karkara	Dallah AlBaraka Holding Co., Bahrain
Kazakh Republican Association with the assistance of United Nations organisation	Sheikh Saleh Kamel
MDMT GROUP INC	
AO "LUKoil Kazakhstan"	

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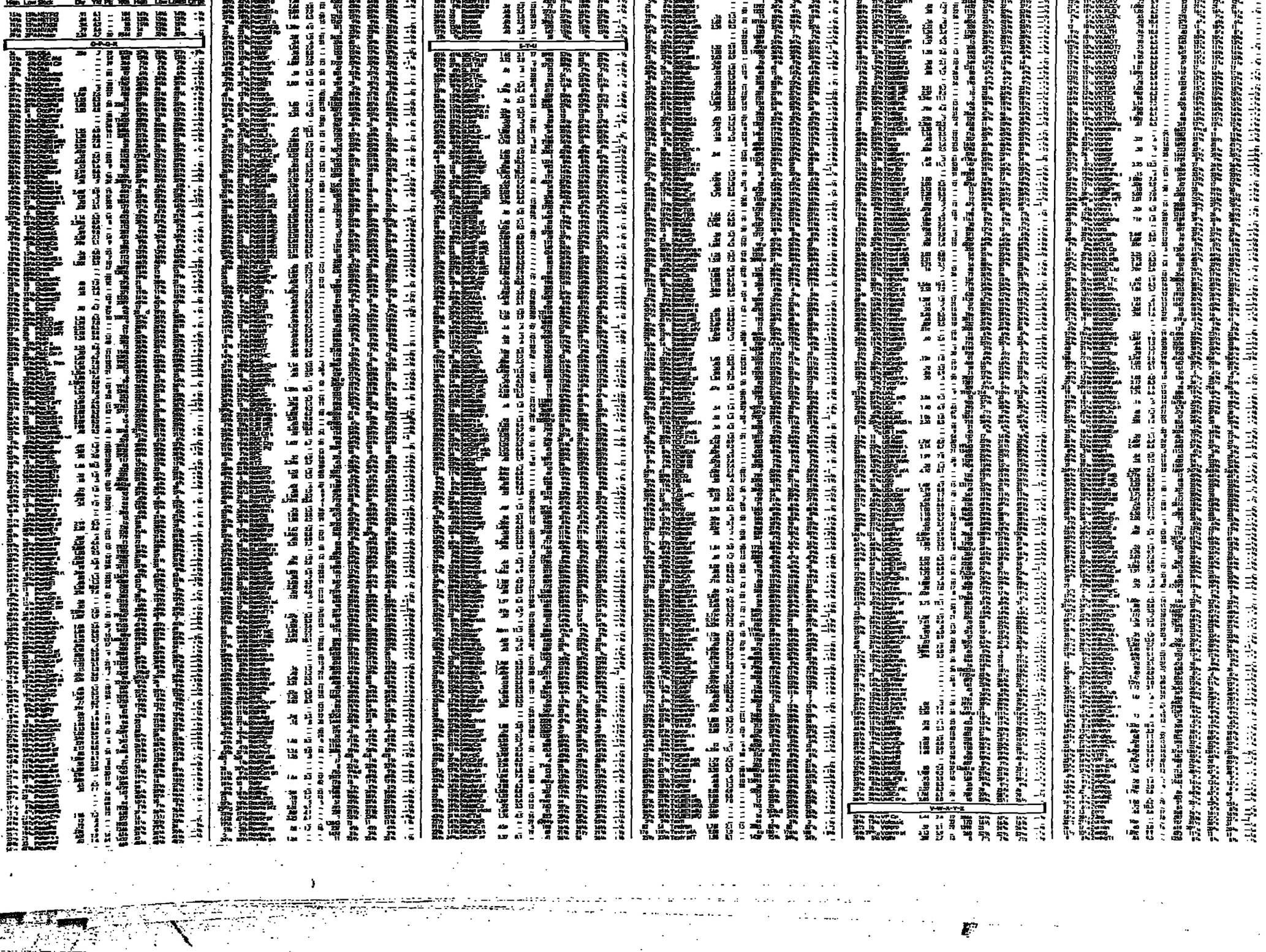
The Associated Press.

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close

(Continued)



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March 19, 1996

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Education Week

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RANKING GERMANY'S SCHOOLS

Students are now grading their teachers, and teachers are assigning marks to schools.

Marks are flying fast in Germany's educational system. In a radical change, the well-regarded system and its institutions are now being graded, not just students. Magazines and newspapers, ministries and the schools themselves are filling out report cards on German education.

Increasingly, schools are being ranked against each other and against their counterparts in other countries. Within universities and schools, professors and teachers are ranking their departments, and students are rating their professor and teachers.

The University of Bayreuth is Germany's "fastest" university: Its students get their degrees in less time than the country's 46 other universities, according to the daily Süddeutsche Zeitung. The University of Munich, the country's largest, gets top ratings from the country's students, according to the federal Ministry of Education. That's probably because of its city's attractions, not the university's academic performance, counters Der Spiegel. The newsweekly puts most of the university's individual departments near the bottom of its rankings. Bavaria's *Gymnasien* (high schools) are Germany's best, proclaims that state's education ministry, based on their graduates' subsequent academic performance.

The interest in ranking schools results from "a subjective loss of trust in the [public] system's efficacy and in the schools' safety," according to Hartmut Ferenschild, spokesperson for Schule Schloss Salem, a highly regarded private school on Lake Constance. Students and their parents are looking for "objective indicators – of whatever validity – which can be used to evaluate it and its individual institutions," he explains.

Objective indicators of a decline in the system are not hard to find. "In evaluating a school's suitability, parents tend to monitor the average size of classes and the average days of non-attendance per teacher," says Marie-Luise Stoll-Steffan, managing director of the International School Frankfurt-Rhine-Main. Both are on the rise. The average class in Munich's Gymnasien now has more than 33 students; five years ago, it had less than 31. The ratio of students to teachers has climbed as more and more teachers succumb to job-related stress – allegedly due to the increasing presence of drugs and violence in schools – and go on temporary or permanent

sick leave. German education officials' efforts to get "more education for the mark," as the Süddeutsche Zeitung recently put it, is also blamed for the system's current ills. More young Germans than ever are earning an Arbitur (or other advanced secondary-school leaving certificate), and more than ever are matriculating, reports the Ministry of Education. But the rise in expenditures was slowed to 3 percent in 1994, much less than than the increase in the school system's fixed costs and total enrollment.

Germany's private schools have profited from the loss of trust in public schools. Long-time veterans of the struggle to provide superior education on tight budgets, they are used to being judged on the quality of their "output." "We're quite used to being evaluated on the basis of the percentages of our students attaining the International Baccalaureate, their average scores, how well they do on the SAT and on other objective indicators," says Adele Hodgson, spokesperson at the Frankfurt International School.

"In fact," she adds, "we disseminate that information ourselves. After all, as is the case with international schools in general, our students come from all over the world and from every imaginable school system, making this 'self-benchmarking' a key point of reference."

While they are highly popular, rankings do not enjoy unqualified support. "Though helpful, rankings, ratings or benchmarking should not be the only, or even the primary, criteria used in evaluating a program of education," say Mr. Ferenschild. "A good educational program will produce persons with a well-rounded range of interests and with a strong sense of social responsibility. These vitally important qualities cannot be quantified in a ranking," he adds.

Terry Swartzberg

TAKING EDUCATION BEYOND THE SCHOOLHOUSE DOOR

International schools in Austria are offering their students the chance to extend their studies into their communities and around the world.

International schools in Austria are placing more and more emphasis on students' taking their studies outside the classroom. Contact with the community, travel and real-world experience are increasingly being seen as integral components of learning.

The American International School (AIS) in Salzburg, an independent coeducational secondary school, offers extracurricular activities that take students beyond Austria's borders.

A junior United Nations

Perhaps one of the most globally oriented of these is the Model United Nations Club, which simulates the workings and procedures of the United Nations. AIS Salzburg counts 25 of its students – 20 percent of the student body – as members of the club. Each year, students from around the world assemble at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands to address a hypothetical conflict situation similar to one that the UN might face. "The most active students, or those most interested in international affairs, are usually the ones chosen to go to The Hague," says David Hintzsche, director of AIS Salzburg. "There, they get to act out a United Nations scenario. That includes writing resolutions, voting, the whole works."

The play's the thing

Drama provides secondary-level students at the Vienna International School (VIS) with an array of possibilities to take their talent to town. The Community Theater program provides a platform for students to create and perform plays targeted at specific audiences, from fellow students to child patients in a local hospital.

"Drama builds self-confidence," says Dinos Aristidou, drama coordinator and writer-in-residence at the VIS. "But it also provides a group dynamic, a community. It breaks down barriers between students from different parts of the world."

That is a vital function in a school whose 1,400 students hail from 87 countries. Yet theater at VIS goes beyond the school and the local audience. Students took Mr. Aristidou's play, "Oedipus – Son of Iocasta," on the road for performances in Cracow and Czestochowa, Poland in 1994. Coming up in Ybbs-an-der-Donau in May, students will perform Mr. Aristidou's "A Memory Play" in German, English and Serbian, the languages of the countries in which the piece is set.

Real-world experience

Hands-on experience is an important part of learning at the International Institute of Tourism and Management (ITM), which is based on the Danube riverside town of Krems.

While working toward ITM's two-year, post-secondary diploma, students participate in a variety of projects that give them practical experience and "direct contact with the tourism industry as well as other professions," says the institute's director, Christian Maier. "That is extremely important to their careers."

One recent effort was a tourism study and proposal for the Kremstal, the relatively little-visited valley region in which the town is located. ITM's second-year class (130 students), inspired by the find of the "Venus of Galgenberg," a 30,000-year-old statue, on the area's Galgenberg hill, decided to promote the Kremstal as the "Valley of Venus." Their plan was presented to the public last year and is now under review by the regional tourist office.

Four ITM students from Uganda developed an analysis and strategy for airlines based in Eastern Africa. Produced in cooperation with the International Management Center, also in Krems, and Uganda's tourism ministry, the project was presented to, among others, international airline officials and tour operators at the International Tourism Exchange, the travel and tourism world trade fair held earlier this month in Berlin.

Darrel Joseph

"INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA" *was published in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune.* WRITERS: *Darrel Joseph, who is based in Vienna; Terry Swartzberg, who is based in Munich.* PROGRAM DIRECTOR: *Bill Mahder.*

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CERAN
COMPETITION THIS WEEK
See on Page 5

WORLD ROUNDUP

Tomba Kicks Out

SKIING Alberto Tomba, the Olympic and world championship slalom gold medalist, was accused of assault Tuesday by Riccardo Schirmacher, a photographer, who said he had filed a complaint with police. Schirmacher alleged that Tomba felled him with a karate kick to the neck and punched and kicked him after both left a party Monday night in Florence. *(Reuters)*

Beam Collapses at Pool

OLYMPICS A steel beam designed to support a temporary roof at the aquatics venue for the 1996 Olympics collapsed after being put into place on Monday. No one was hurt in the accident, which occurred in an area where bleacher seats for 11,000 Olympic spectators are to be installed at the aquatics center on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology. *(Reuters)*

Seminoles Escape Bans

FOOTBALL Florida State University escaped serious NCAA penalties following a three-year investigation that began after a much-publicized shopping spree by Seminoles players.

The NCAA imposed a one-year probation on the football program for failing to properly monitor the activities of prospective sports agents on its campus. However, there was no ban on postseason play, no TV appearance ban and no reduction in scholarships. *(AP)*

Philadelphia Teams Sold

Comcast Corp. agreed to buy the Philadelphia Flyers, of the Naitonal Hockey League, and the 76ers, of the National Basketball Association, as well as the CoreStates Center and its predecessor, The Spectrum, sources close to the negotiations said. The deal is expected to cost Comcast between $500 million and $600 million. *(AP)*

Italians Near TV Deal

SOCCER Italian officials said Tuesday they had drafted a deal between the state broadcaster RAI and the media magnate Vittorio Cecchi Gori for a division of television rights but said the two had yet to agree to sign. Cecchi Gori pulled off a coup March 1 when he outbid RAI and Silvio Berlusconi, for exclusive radio and unencrypted television rights to Italian soccer. *(Reuters)*

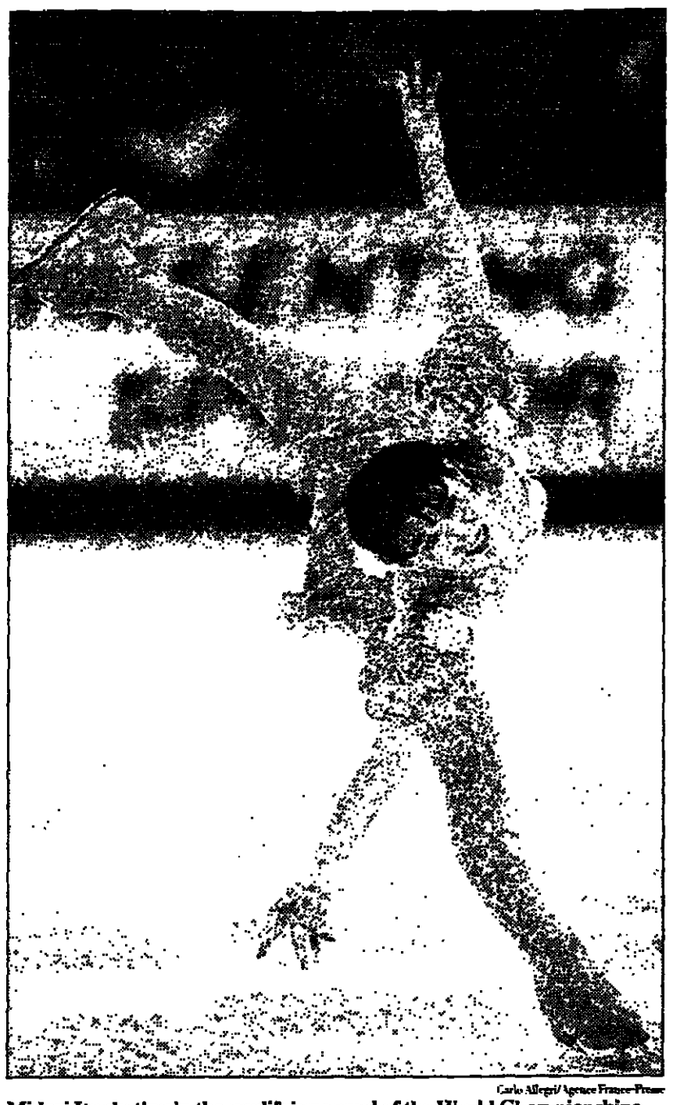
Illingworth Challenged

CRICKET Ray Illingworth will be challenged for his job as chairman of England's team selectors. David Graveney, who is also on the England selection committee, was nominated Tuesday to oppose Illingworth at next week's meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board executive committee. *(Reuters)*

Players Lose Drug Appeal

TENNIS Mats Wilander and Karel Novacek failed to stop the International Tennis Federation from starting disciplinary action against them after they tested positive for cocaine at last year's French Open.

The High Court in London rejected a bid by the players to have ITF disciplinary procedures put on hold until a full trial in June when the players will argue that drug-testing procedures are unfair. *(Reuters)*



Carlo Allegri/Agence France-Presse
Midori Ito skating in the qualifying round of the World Championships.

Japan's '92 Silver Medalist Tests Ice in Olympic Warmup

New York Times Service

EDMONTON, Alberta — Four years after she apologized for her fourth-place finish in the short program during the 1992 Winter Games — in which she ultimately won a silver medal — Midori Ito returned to international amateur skating Monday, her Olympic eligibility intact, if not her composure.

After stumbling on her trademark triple axel, Ito appeared nervous and not entirely confident as she performed her long program in the qualifying round of the World Figure Skating Championships.

She two-footed a triple salchow, landed an awkward triple lutz and almost came to a complete stop during her routine.

"I wasn't satisfied," Ito, 26, said through a translator. "This is my first time at Worlds since 1991. I still do not feel I'm up to par, and my conditioning is not as good as it should be."

But if there is one thing she hasn't lost, it is the respect of her competitors. Ito comfortably qualified for the women's competition that begins Friday, and her soaring jumps, speed and improved artistry will make her one of the favorites, no matter how long she has been away.

Asked if he was happy to see Ito back in Olympic-style skating, Frank Carroll, who coaches the American champion Michelle Kwan, said, "Not with that triple axel staring me in the face."

The triple axel is the most difficult of jumps, requiring three and a half revolutions in the air. Ito, the 1989 world champion, was the first woman to land the jump in competition. Only Tonya Harding has landed one since.

And there is concern in the Kwan camp that Ito's triple axel, planned for both the short and long programs, could overwhelm Kwan's advantage in artistry and look — i.e. her longer, cleaner line.

Vantage Point/JERE LONGMAN

"I don't think she has the body and the look of Michelle," Carroll said of Ito. "I think that's my biggest advantage — the look. Michelle has class. When you watch her skate, she's becoming an artist.

"But I've seen Midori skate well too many times," Carroll added. "Anyone who counts her down is crazy."

After a short retirement and four professional competitions since 1992, Ito has returned to Olympic-style skating at the behest of the Japanese federation, which wants a home-ice favorite for the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano.

Ito was also lured back by the same thing that drove her away — the pressure of having an entire season rest on four minutes on the ice.

"Competing in that kind of tension is not something you can experience as a pro," Ito told The Associated Press in Japan before the world championships.

It was crushing pressure to win a gold medal at the 1992 Winter Olympics that left Ito apologizing after her disappointing performance in the short program. All of Japan had expected Ito to win, and when she didn't, she seemed to feel that she had failed an entire nation.

"She felt a responsibility to win for Japan," said Linda Leaver, the longtime coach of 1988 Olympic champion Brian Boitano.

In retrospect, said Takeshi Tsuchigahata, the top Japanese skating official here, the expectations were too great, the pressure too intense.

"All Japanese people hoped Midori would win," Tsuchigahata said. "She felt that. She was younger."

Four years later, the 4-foot-10-inch (1.47-meter), 95-pound (43-kilogram) Ito is slimmer and more graceful, her muscular jumping now complemented by more fluid, elegant connecting moves, her style refined by professional competitions and ice shows.

"She's a much better all-around performer than she was before," said Dick Button, the two-time Olympic champion.

"She's older, more mature, and she hasn't lost an ounce of her jumping ability."

For the first time at a world championship or Olympic competition, women of Asian heritage are favored to win all three medals: Ito of Japan; Chen Lu, the defending world champion from China; and Kwan, the 15-year-old Chinese-American from Los Angeles.

ASIAN or Asian-American women have won five of the past seven world championships. The reason, according to Carroll and other coaches, has to do with slender body types that aid jumping, diet, discipline and determination.

"Their bodies and discipline and work ethic gives them an advantage over most American kids," Carroll said.

Her jumping ability gives Ito an advantage over every other female skater. What remains to be seen is whether she also possesses the completeness and equilibrium to win a second world title.

"The only problem is how much pressure she's going to feel," said Yuka Sato of Japan, the 1994 world champion. "If she gets over that, no one can beat her."

Italy's Strikers Strike and Score an Own Goal

International Herald Tribune

Soccer /ROB HUGHES

ITALY'S SOCCER players took the day off last Sunday in a show of strength against their paymasters. They scored a pyrrhic victory — the few exercising self-importance by rendering the masses idle.

Sure, Gianluca Vialli and his union committee say it was a token warning to bring the feudal bosses to the table. That, no doubt, was in the minds of American baseball players when they struck, but one strike turned into two and two into three and that broke for millions the most important bond in sport — between competitors and fans.

If Western Hemisphere readers can believe it, soccer is even more ingrained in the culture of Italy than the crack of the bat is in America. It is Sunday's second religion (dare one say it, in countless cases the first), and shutting down Serie A in a wages and conditions dispute is akin to closing the church because the clergy feels underpaid.

Soccer's ritual outpouring of feelings provides balance to emotionless working lives. Not everyone goes to the stadium because, as João Havelange observed on another occasion, the stadiums are not made of rubber; but so many, many of them care.

What care, in return, did their heroes show them? Last weekend was the first time in peacetime — other than as a mark of respect following a catastrophe such as last season's floods in northern Italy — that the gates have been closed.

Thirty-two times previously the professional players had threatened strike action: 32 times they or the club owners stood down from the brink. Now, following the Bosman ruling in the European Court, players feel bold enough, rich enough, militant enough to withdraw their labor.

It cannot have felt like a sacrifice. Sunday's postponed matches will be played on a weekday, the players won't lose a single lira, sponsors and television will mostly show up, and the cry that the day of abstention cost billions of lire rings hollow.

The rich club owners — Agnellis and Berlusconis — will not be amused to have had their Sunday ruined, but they will get over it. Some fans may be different. There are supporters, young and old, for whom one specific Sunday in the calendar means everything. They save for the price of a precious ticket, or a whole family of tickets, for San Siro or Olimpico on that day. They arrange their work, their leisure, the core of complex lives, with that Sunday in mind. A child might be promised a birthday treat, a coming-of-age present, which would be his or her induction into the faith.

A grandparent, facing sickness perhaps, might have intended to spend this one last Sunday in the stands. It goes on and on, the fabric of life woven into the undeserving sport, and if you think I exaggerate or play too much on emotions that in the majority of cases can be transferred to midweek, then you have not met the fanatics I know.

What was achieved by Blank Sunday? The players have four main demands: They want an end to the *parametri*, a convoluted calculation by which domestic transfer fees are assessed according to age, market worth, experience.

They support the Bosman ruling, which allows European Union players the right to work where they will once their contracts have expired. But they want to decrease the numbers of non-EU players taking their lire.

They demand the immediate payment of, allegedly, some $5 million owed to lower league professionals whose clubs went bust trying to keep up with the spiraling salaries.

They want the clubs (but not the millionaire players?) to pay into a pool so that in the event of future bankruptcy closures, the wages are waiting for the players.

The players are not vagabonds for making these claims. In every league the world over there are rogue club presidents and incompetents who make promises and lay riches at the feet of star players that they cannot afford. It is an irrational business, caught in the dream of ever-increasing profits for the minority who get to play lucrative games such as those this Wednesday in the Champions League.

Anyway, when the strike threat loomed, Antonio Matarrese, the Italian *calcio* (soccer) federation president, and his board moved considerably on the players' demands. These days, they have no choice. The wages they pay to the elite enables those players to turn up at the negotiations with lawyers every bit as costly, and probably as Machiavellian, as those bosses have employed down the years.

The boot really is on the other foot.

However, seeing the federation on the run, the union wouldn't back off. Matarrese acknowledged that he was making offers from a position of weakness. His concessions included the players' most costly demand: representation on committees that decide policies in every area of their "game"

Granted, said Matarrese. One vote, on a committee of 18? No way, said the union. They want *meaningful* representation, a real weapon of power.

Carlo Fumagalli/AP
George Weah, one of Italy's best-paid players, was among strikers.

DECADES OF distrust and distaste between those who play and those who hire is at the heart of the dispute. Players have their adversaries on the floor and are putting the boot in because, they say, if they let the rulers get one over them again it will be years (so precious in the short term to athletes) before they are in this position again.

Vialli, the players' spokesman, stands to benefit either way. He will profit from the freedoms the players are demanding but in any case his contract expires this summer and he will become a free agent.

Shortly after his $12 million move from Sampdoria to Juventus, this most magnificent footballer — a man both wholehearted in his play and blessed with physical strength and vision on the field — broke down physically. A simple but persistent broken toe cost Juventus millions in salary and medical bills. Juventus paid, as clubs must, and after 18 wasted months of Vialli's prime he returned as determined as ever — but older and less effective.

He is, fitness permitting, on call for the Champions League quarterfinal second leg Wednesday against Real Madrid. His contract is almost up and using the public machinery of television to offer his declining service either to Juventus again, or to Chelsea in London, or to any big spender that comes in. He seeks one last, big challenge — with payment commensurate, of course.

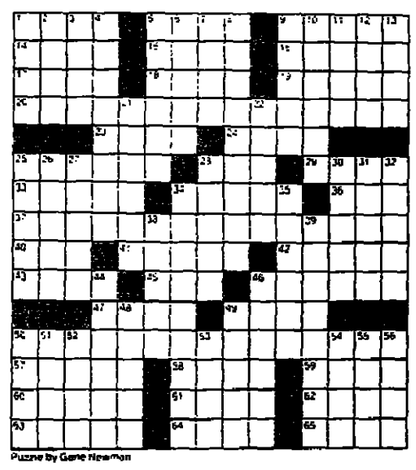
Last I heard, Vialli, who used to have such a sense of humor, was consulting his lawyers. Matarrese had alluded to Vialli as the Robin Hood of soccer. Can you sue for *that*? And can a fan sue the players for withdrawal symptoms on a Sunday afternoon?

Rob Hughes is on the staff of the Times of London.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Hollywood co.
5 Goal with no on
9 By surprise
14 Re-forms
15 — -a-tack
16 King of bad
17 Heart of the matter
18 Jerk -ar
19 Bogart in "High Sierra"
20 Barely
23 Lineal
24 Toss (out)
25 Dovle's "-- in Scarlet"
28 Diner lunch order
29 "It's fun to stay at the ---" (1978 song lyric)
33 "Little Lulu" cartoonist
34 '50's Yankees great Hank
36 Not up in Innsbruck
37 Barely
40 PC key
41 Rummages through
42 Tool
43 Campus org.
45 Scheduled
46 Some 16th-century engravings
47 Looks like trouble
49 Jaagersee skiing site
50 Barely
57 Smoking gun
58 Pitcher Wilhelm
59 The Art of Love author
60 Exposes
61 English composer
62 So long
63 Picnic pests
64 Tournament opening
65 Leave playing in the snow

DOWN
1 Three Hooters in Lehigh
2 Tennis score
3 Without a clue
4 Notwithstanding that
5 AEC scorer
6 Pears in vegetables
7 Semicircle
8 Literary circles
9 Hebrew A's
10 Dick Tracy, star
11 Farm prefix
12 Footwinder
13 The Mocker (Mocked artist)
21 Hawthorne
22 Comic Chaplin
25 Sophisticated
26 Express surprise
27 Pamenter
28 Thrash
30 Part of Felice's family
31 More goosestepping
32 Hardwoods
34 To-dos
35 Job hunter's need
38 Crystalline antiseptic
39 California crop
44 Regis or Esther Lee
46 Prepared to lift plants
48 Tests the weight of
49 Composer Jean
50 P.D. Right
51 Event
52 Partially
53 Fe-
54 Planetary unit
55 Actress Nana
56 Nonsensical



Puzzle By Gene Newman
© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

Solution to Puzzle of March 19

H	A	Y	E	I	S		S	T	R	U	M		H	O	S
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I	N	N		C	I	D	A	R		D	A	T	E	S		

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NBA Standings

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ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Orlando	49	17	.742	—
New York	37	26	.587	10½
Miami	32	33	.492	16½
Washington	30	35	.462	18½
New Jersey	25	39	.391	23
Boston	25	40	.385	23½
Philadelphia	13	52	.200	35½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Chicago	58	7	.892	—
Indiana	40	24	.625	17½
Detroit	37	27	.578	20½
Cleveland	36	28	.563	21½
Atlanta	35	29	.547	22½
Charlotte	32	31	.508	25
Milwaukee	21	43	.328	36½
Toronto	16	48	.250	41½

WESTERN CONFERENCE
MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	46	18	.719	—
Utah	45	20	.692	1½
Houston	42	23	.646	4½
Denver	28	37	.431	18½
Minnesota	21	43	.328	25
Dallas	21	44	.323	25½
Vancouver	11	51	.177	34

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Seattle	50	14	.781	—
L.A. Lakers	40	23	.635	9½
Phoenix	32	33	.492	18½
Portland	31	34	.477	19½
Sacramento	28	35	.444	21½
Golden State	29	37	.439	22
L.A. Clippers	23	42	.354	27½
x-clinched playoff spot				

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Denver 27 35 24 36—122
Toronto 30 29 28 27—114
D: McDyess 11-13 10-11 32, Abdul-Rauf 9-15 7-8 27; T: Murray 15-25 4-4 40, Miller 7-10 0-2 14. Rebounds—Denver 47 (Mutombo 13), Toronto 44 (Miller 9). Assists—Denver 25 (Rose 11), Toronto 32 (Stoudamire 16).
Chicago 22 26 28 30— 98
Philadelphia 21 25 24 24— 94
C: Kukoc 8-16 3-6 21, Jordan 15-32 8-10 38; P: Shackleford 8-21 14-17 31, Maxwell 5-13 5-8 18. Rebounds—Chicago 50 (Jordan 11), Philadelphia 49 (Weatherspoon 12). Assists—Chicago 26 (Kukoc 11), Philadelphia 17 (Ruffin 6).
Utah 20 29 32 26—107
Milwaukee 22 17 26 25— 90
U: Malone 10-17 2-2 22, Hornacek 10-14 4-4 25; M: Baker 5-13 3-5 14, Robinson 6-16 7-8 21. Rebounds—Utah 40 (Malone 10), Milwaukee 31 (Benjamin 8). Assists—Utah 32 (Stockton 16), Milwaukee 20 (Douglas 7).
Golden State 28 26 25 19— 98
San Antonio 24 42 26 12—104
G.S.: Sprewell 7-15 3-4 17, Sellers 6-13 4-6 18; S.A.: Elliott 8-13 2-3 19, Robinson 12-24 8-11 32. Rebounds—Golden State 45 (Willis, Sellers 7), San Antonio 49 (Robinson 14). Assists—Golden State 24 (Armstrong 7), San Antonio 32 (Johnson 17).
L.A. Clippers 34 27 17 22—101
Seattle 31 25 16 32—104
L.A.: Rogers 7-11 1-2 20, Williams 8-16 4-5 20; S: Kemp 8-12 11-13 27, Payton 8-14 4-6 20. Rebounds—Los Angeles 48 (Vaught 9), Seattle 46 (Payton 10). Assists—Los Angeles 27 (Richardson 11), Seattle 20 (Payton 10).

NIT Second Round

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Alabama 72, Missouri 69
Illinois St. 77, Wisconsin 62
South Carolina 80, Vanderbilt 70
Tulane 84, Minnesota 65

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	36	19	14	86	241	193
Florida	36	24	9	81	227	200
Philadelphia	34	21	13	81	232	181
New Jersey	32	26	11	75	181	163
Washington	33	28	8	74	195	180
Tampa Bay	32	28	10	74	206	218
N.Y. Islanders	20	40	8	48	198	265

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	41	24	4	86	308	237
Montreal	34	27	8	76	225	211
Boston	32	28	9	73	237	232
Hartford	30	31	7	67	206	219
Buffalo	27	36	7	61	204	217
Ottawa	15	50	3	33	161	246

WESTERN CONFERENCE
CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
y-Detroit	52	12	4	108	265	150
Chicago	36	23	11	83	239	187
St. Louis	31	27	12	74	192	200
Toronto	28	31	12	68	207	216
Winnipeg	29	35	5	63	223	252
Dallas	22	35	12	56	194	231

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Colorado	39	21	10	88	277	202
Vancouver	27	29	15	69	246	245
Calgary	28	30	11	67	207	206
Anaheim	27	36	6	60	195	216
Edmonton	25	37	7	57	198	261
Los Angeles	21	36	15	57	224	266
San Jose	16	49	7	39	221	315

x-clinched playoff spot; y-clinched division title.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Tampa Bay 1 1 1—3
Hartford 2 3 1—6
First Period: T-Bradley 19 (Andersson, Poeschek). 2, H-O'Neill 7 (Brown). 3, H-Sanderson 31 (Brown, Nikolishin) (pp). Second Period: H-Rice 10 (Sanderson, Cassels) :54. 5, T-Cullen 16 (Hamrlik) (pp). 6, H-Sanderson 32 (Rice, Cassels). 7, H-Emerson 25 (Shanahan, Brown). Third Period: T-Wiemer 8 (Bellows). 9, H-Brown 8, (en). Shots on goal: T-13-17-9—39. H-12-15-15—42. Goalies: T-Reese. H-Burke.
Buffalo 2 0 0—2
Montreal 2 1 0—3
First Period: B-Barnaby 13 (Huddy, Burridge). 2, B-Dawe 17 (LaFontaine). 3, M-Belsebols 8 (Stevenson, Murray). 4, M-Kovalenko 25 (Recchi, Turgeon). Second Period: M-Kovalenko 26 (Koivu, Recchi). Third Period— None. Shots on goal: B- 9-10-6—25. M-10-15-10—35. Goalies: B-Hasek. M-Thibault.
San Jose 0 0 3 0—3
Boston 1 2 0 0—3
First Period: B-Sweeney 6 (Tocchet, Oates) (pp). Second Period: B-Heinze 11 (Donato, Sweeney). 3, B-Sutter 1 (Sweeney) (sh). Third Period: S.J.-Kozlov 6. 5, S.J.-Colaun 1 (Radina Friesen) (pp). 6, S.J.-Odgers 11 (Tonelli, Sykora). Overtime—None. Missed Penalty Shot— Tocchet, first. Shots on goal: S.J.-7-7-11-0—25. B-11-13-11-3—38. Goalies: S.J.-Serjeant. B-Ranford.
St. Louis 0 2 1 0—3
Los Angeles 0 1 0 1—2
First Period—None. Second Period: S.L.-Gretzky 20 (Mattieux, Hull), 2, L.A.-Zmolek 2 (Todd, Vopat). 3, S.L.-Mattieux 10 (Hull, Gretzky). Third Period: S.L.-Hull 40, (en). Shots on goal: S.L.- 6-13-7—26. L.A.- 13-11-12—36. Goalies: S.L.-Puhr. L.A.-Hrudey.

BASEBALL

Exhibition Results

MONDAY'S GAMES
Atlanta 4, Houston 1
Baltimore 13, Montreal 10
Chicago White Sox 5, St. Louis (ss) 4
Cincinnati 8, Toronto 7
Colorado 7, California 5, 11 innings
Kansas City 10, Cleveland 9
Los Angeles 3, Florida 1
N.Y. Yankees 9, St. Louis (ss) 4
N.Y. Mets 8, Montreal (ss) 4
Oakland 6, Seattle 3
San Diego 9, San Francisco 7
Texas 18, Philadelphia 8

SOCCER

English Premier League

Newcastle 3, West Ham 0
STANDINGS: Newcastle 64 points; Manchester United 61; Liverpool 59; Aston Villa 55; Arsenal 51; Blackburn 48; Everton 48; Tottenham 46; Nottingham Forest 44; Chelsea 44; West Ham 42; Leeds 39; Middlesbrough 35; Sheffield Wednesday 32; Manchester City 30; Coventry 27; Wimbledon 27; Southampton 25; Queens Park 23; Bolton 22.

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
CALIFORNIA—Waived Juan Agosto, pitcher, to give him unconditional release. Sold Julio Valera, pitcher, to Kansas City for undisclosed amount. Optioned Ben VanRyn and Joe Rosselli, pitchers, to Vancouver, PCL.
OAKLAND—Optioned Willie Adams and Andrew Lorraine, pitchers, and Fausto Cruz and Scott Spiezio, infielders, to Edmonton, PCL. Optioned Jason McDonald, infielder, and Jose Herrera, outfielder, to Huntsville, SL. Reassigned Archie Corbin, Paul Fletcher and Dave Telgheder, pitchers, and Derek Lee and Tyrone Horne, outfielders, to their minor-league camp.
TORONTO—Sent Michael Huff, outfielder, and Travis Baptist, pitcher, to their minor-league camp.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
FLORIDA—Optioned Marc Valdes, Miguel Batista and Joel Adamson, pitchers; Edgar Renteria and Ralph Milliard, infielders; and Billy McMillon, outfielder, to Charlotte, IL. Sent Jason Robertson, outfielder; Lou Lucca, infielder; and John Rocker, Todd Cody, Mike Sims and Hector Kollen, catchers, to their minor-league camp.
NEW YORK—Traded Scott Adair and Pete Walker, pitchers, to San Diego for Roberto Petagine, 1st baseman, and Luis Arroyo, pitcher.

SPORTS

A Bearcat on the Bench But a Pussycat Off-Court

Cincinnati's Coach Plays Tough Game

By Chris Dufresne
Los Angeles Times Service

CHRONICLING University of Cincinnati basketball and its madman coach, Bob Huggins, would prove difficult.

Capturing the essence of Huggins, the 42-year-old time bomb, referee-baiter, courtside screamer, was going to be problematic.

Getting inside the head of this leader of college basketball rogues, or so the perception goes, to find out what makes one of the country's top coaches tick, tick, tick, would take some reconstruction.

Why? Because you can't hear the guy.

You were forewarned about this and distinctly remember cranking up the tape recorder to full volume before inching it forward on Huggins' desk.

Yet, what you hear later sounds likes short-wave radio. The coach who berates officials for a living is speaking like a golf analyst.

The man who turned the Bearcats into a rough-and-tumble national power preaching the gospel of forearm shivers?

He's Mr. Peepers off the court.

Later, you make out the faint sound of a human voice on the tape explaining how things aren't always as they seem.

"There are a lot of misconceptions about a lot of people," Huggins says, quietly.

Huggins has fought the bad-boy tag since he arrived at Cincinnati in 1989, taking over a program on National Collegiate Athletic Association sanctions for that bureaucratic offense, "lack of institutional control."

Because he turned around a bad situation so quickly, going 20-14 in his first year, sirens sounded.

Because Huggins relied on junior college transfers to build the Nick Van Exel-Corie Blount Final Four team of 1991-92, some cried foul.

There has been some explaining to do.

Last summer, one of his players, Art Long, was accused of punching out a horse.

The Bearcats under Huggins are, in fact, as subtle as a punch in the face. They hit the weights, the boards and pretty much anything that stands in their way.

During a recent visit, their star forward Danny Fortson flexed his biceps proudly after concluding a prepractice trip to the weight room.

This Friday, in the third round of the Southeast Regional at Lexington, Kentucky, the Bearcats will muscle up against Georgia Tech.

Cincinnati is a tough team with a tough coach.

"That's the kind of reputation he wants," says Van Exel, the former Bearcat and current Los Angeles Laker. "He wants to be an intimidating team. He wants to go out and bury you by 100 points if he can. Play hard, scratch, elbow — whatever it takes."

Huggins, however, resents the lack of distinction between tough and dirty. He cringes at comparisons to Nevada-Las Vegas teams of yesteryear and, in Gary Hart bravado, welcomes NCAA inquisitors to rummage through his program's chest of drawers.

"There are people who write columns about us who have never spoken to me," Huggins says. "They never talked to our kids, never talked to any former guys. Don't have any idea about the way things are. Just look at my kids when they come in here, see how they dress. Go look in the parking lot. See if you see any cars. Totally different deal.

"Ask Nick (Van Exel) what he got? Ask Corie (Blount) what they got. They got a new pair of sneakers and a hard time. That's it."

There are two sides to Bob Huggins, two sides to Cincinnati's story.

There is Huggins in the morning, quiet as a mouse. And then there is Huggins on a rampage. During the recent Conference USA tournament, which the Bearcats won, Huggins was reprimanded for criticizing the officials. And Huggins and his players are not reluctant to scream at each other in public view.

"As soon as the whistle blows, he's not the same guy you talked to in the morning," Fortson says.

Huggins explains wryly, "Wouldn't it be refreshing if people went about their jobs with *enthusiasm and vigor*?"

From a distance, Cincinnati is what you read in the press clippings.

Perception: Look at all those junior college transfers. Something must be crooked.

Reality: To revive a depleted program, Huggins restocked with junior college players. To the chagrin of many, he found good ones, Van Exel in Texas; Blount in Los Angeles.

Only three players on this year's roster of 12 are junior college transfers.

Perception: Huggins recruits wayward kids.

Reality: Cincinnati has had its share of problems. Dontonio Wingfield, a brilliant player but bad egg, lasted only a season.

The horse story? Last spring, the starting center Art Long and Fortson were involved in an incident in which Long allegedly assaulted a policeman's horse. Long was acquitted; Fortson was never charged.

Long, a senior, attended three junior colleges before moving on to Cincinnati and once pleaded no contest to selling marijuana to an undercover policeman. Huggins took some heat when he took Long.

DARNELL Burton, a 6-foot-2 guard, was suspended last fall for the 1995-96 season after, according to published reports, he tested positive for marijuana in a random drug test. The offense carried a one-year suspension by university mandate, but that policy was amended this year, reducing the penalty for first-time offenders. Burton was back in the lineup after three games.

Huggins says he likes reclamation projects.

"In most segments of our society, if you took a troubled youth, worked with him, spent time with him, cared about him, he'd be a whole lot better person," Huggins says. "And you'd get a medal. When we do that, we're bad guys."

"In the Cal game (Dec. 20), he kicked a trash can and it almost hit me," the senior point guard Keith LeGree recalls. "I've seen him punch three or four chalkboards. It gets your attention in a hurry. He knows we got talent, that we can win it all if we play up to our potential. He knows how good we can be. He likes to win, you can't fault him for that."

The Bearcats were 81-117 in the seven seasons before he arrived. Since, Cincinnati is 165-62 and has made either the NIT or NCAA tournament each season.

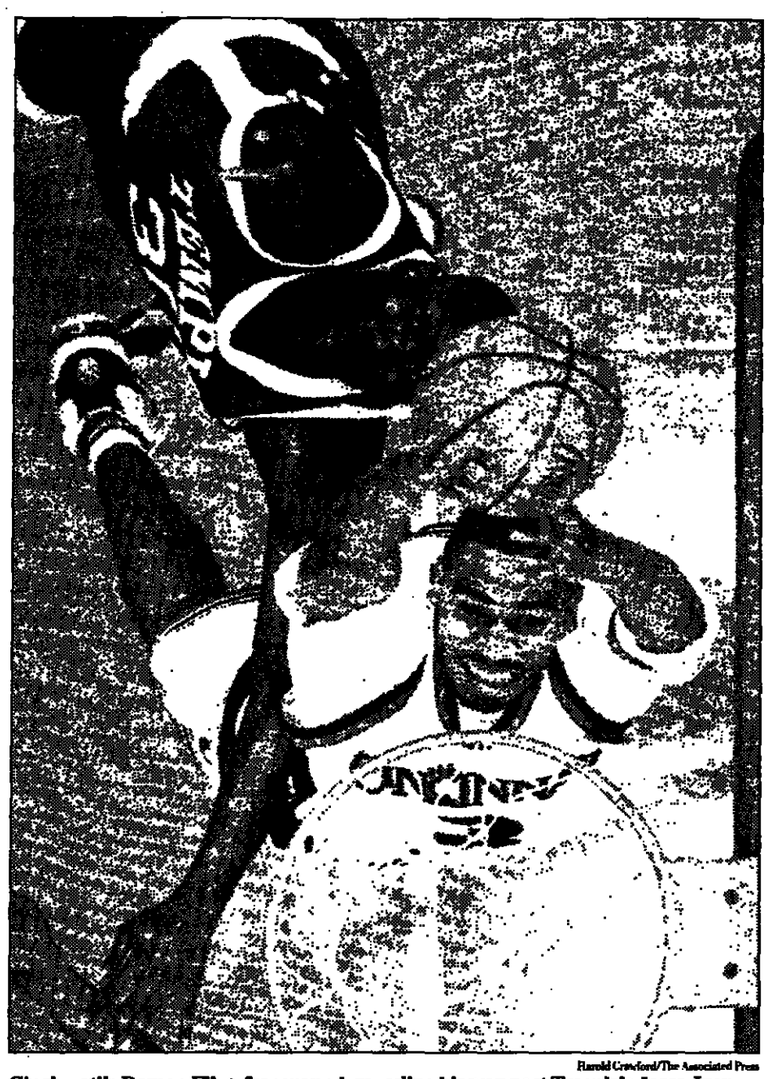
Huggins has restored respect to a program that fell into a black hole after winning national championships in 1961 and 1962.

The Bearcats have made their mark by making marks. Their practices should be sanctioned by the World Boxing Council.

"There are no fouls at practice," the junior guard Damon Flint says.

Players fight, scrap, dive for loose balls. Some players get kicked out.

"He doesn't care about your feelings," says Fortson, a second-team All-American. "I respect guys like that. He'll tell you he doesn't care what you're feeling. He told me, 'If you're soft, don't come.' Recruits come, see practice, and they get scared. I think Huggins does that for a reason."



Harold Crawford/The Associated Press
Cincinnati's Damon Flint, foreground, muscling his way past Temple's Jason Ivey.

Minus 2 Key Men, Bulls Win Anyway

The Associated Press

Toni Kukoc kept his jersey on the whole game, and Luc Longley left the coolers alone. Steve Kerr and Jud Buechler shared high fives, not head-butts. Michael Jordan was the only one on the Chicago Bulls who acted like Dennis Rodman, grabbing 11 rebounds.

Chicago, playing its first game without the suspended Rodman, who averages 15.1 rebounds, won't be available to the Bulls until an April 2 game with Miami.

NBA ROUNDUP

Rodman, struggled with lowly Philadelphia before making big plays in the final minute for a 98-94 victory Monday night over the 76ers at the Spectrum.

Rodman, slapped with a six-game suspension and fined $20,000 for head-butting a referee and obscenity-filled tantrum in New Jersey over the weekend, wasn't there to see the Bulls play without him. He stayed at the team's hotel.

He missed seeing Jordan score 14 of his 38 points in the fourth quarter as Chicago, also without Scottie Pippen, won its 10th straight over the 76ers and continued its climb toward 70 victories.

Kukoc added 21 points and 11 assists for the Bulls, who won their fourth straight and improved to 58-7.

Nuggets 122, Raptors 114 Antonio McDyess scored 32 points and Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf added 27 as Denver ended its eight-game road losing streak. Tracy Murray scored a franchise-record 40 points for the Raptors.

Abdul-Rauf, playing his third game since returning from his suspension for refusing to stand during the national anthem, received an equal mix of boos and cheers when he entered the game in the first quarter. After the game, he said he would like to live in Toronto.

Jazz 107, Bucks 90 Jeff Hornacek scored 25 points and Karl Malone 22 as Utah handed Milwaukee its eighth straight loss. Glenn Robinson led Milwaukee with 21.

Spurs 104, Warriors 98 In San Antonio, David Robinson had 32 points and 14 rebounds as the Spurs won their 10th straight. Rony Seiklay scored 18 points for the Warriors.

SuperSonics 104, Clippers 101 In Seattle, Shawn Kemp scored five points in 28 seconds, and the Sonics closed the game with a 7-0 run in the final minute to beat the Clippers for the 12th straight time.

Alabama Big Guy Tops Missouri

The Associated Press

Missouri thought it had the towering twins. Alabama knew it had Roy Rogers.

Alabama was the winner.

Rogers " was dominating," Missouri's coach, Norm Stewart, said. "He intimidated our guys, which is kind of interesting because we see a lot of big people. As far as shot-blocking, he's the best."

NIT TOURNAMENT

Alabama's 6-foot-10-inch (2.08-meter) center had 20 points, 13 rebounds and nine blocked shots Monday night to lead the Crimson Tide past Missouri's Tigers by 72-49 and into the third round of the National Invitation Tournament.

A senior who broke Shaquille O'Neal's Southeastern Conference single-game record with 14 blocks earlier this season, Rogers had a hand close to just about every one of Missouri's inside shots.

"The real value with Roy's situation is not only the ones he blocks," Alabama's coach, David Hobbs, said. "How many do you think they thought about when they got in there?"

The Tigers' 7-foot-1 center, Simeon Haley, scored just two points, which was two more than his 7-foot brother, Sammie Haley. Sammie was suspended for the game by Stewart, although no reason for the suspension was offered.

The victory sends Alabama to South Carolina on Wednesday. The Gamecocks advanced to the third round with an 80-70 victory over visiting Vanderbilt.

That's not good news for Alabama. The Crimson Tide lost its only game against South Carolina this season, 90-67, in Columbia.

In other second-round games Monday, Tulane eliminated Minnesota, 84-65, and Illinois State ousted Wisconsin, 77-62.

The third-round winners get semifinal spots next week at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Tulane 84, Minnesota 65 Chris Cameron, a guard who averages nine points, scored nine of his 20 points in a 22-6 rally to start the game as Tulane jumped on top early and cruised to an easy victory at Minnesota.

It is the first time Tulane has advanced past the second round of either the NIT or NCAA tournament.

Jerald Honeycutt added 16 points for the Green Wave and got nine rebounds, giving him 208 for the season. The only player in Tulane history to have at least 500 points, 200 rebounds and 100 assists in a season, Honeycutt achieved the feat for the second straight year.

Illinois State 77, Wisconsin 62 Maurice Trotter scored 12 of his 19 points in the second half as visiting Illinois State overcame a career-high 28-point performance by Sam Okey of Wisconsin.

All Eyes Were on Gretzky As Blues Beat Kings, 3-1

The Associated Press

Wayne Gretzky's emotional return to the Forum in Inglewood, California, in a St. Louis Blues jersey had a bittersweet effect on everyone.

The Los Angeles Kings' coach, Larry Robinson, thought it was weird. The goalie, Kelly Hrudey, couldn't look his old friend in the eye.

And the player everyone came to see wished he was somewhere else, away from the intense pressure of having 16,005 fans show up to boo him.

NHL ROUNDUP

"I'm pleased it's over with," Gretzky said after the Blues' 3-1 victory Monday night. "I said to Brett (Hull) before the game, "I can't wait to get to Dallas and a normal game where there's not so much attention on myself."

If he felt awkward, it didn't show. Gretzky got a goal and an assist in his first game against the Kings since his Feb. 27 trade.

Gretzky scored the game's first goal 7:00 into the second period. He smiled as boos rang out. He was still smiling on the bench minutes after his fifth goal in nine games with the Blues and 20th of the season. Gretzky set up his team's second goal, scored by Stephane Matteau at 15:10 of the second period.

Hull had assists on the goals by Gretzky and Matteau, then notched an empty-net goal with six seconds remaining in the game.

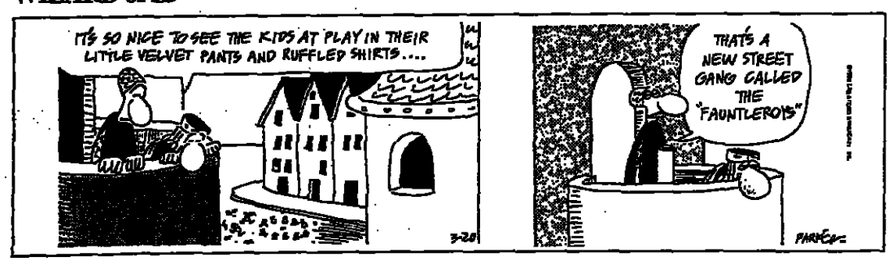
Whalers 6, Lightning 3 Geoff Sanderson scored twice, and Jeff Brown had a goal and three assists as Hartford continued its pursuit of Tampa Bay. The Whalers won for the fourth time in five games. The loss was the third in a row for the Lightning.

Sharks 3, Bruins 3 Boston wasted a chance to move into a tie for the final Eastern Conference playoff spot when San Jose rallied from a 3-0 third-period deficit at Fleet-Center. San Jose tied the game with three goals in 11 minutes by Viktor Kozlov, Jan Caloun and Jeff Odgers.

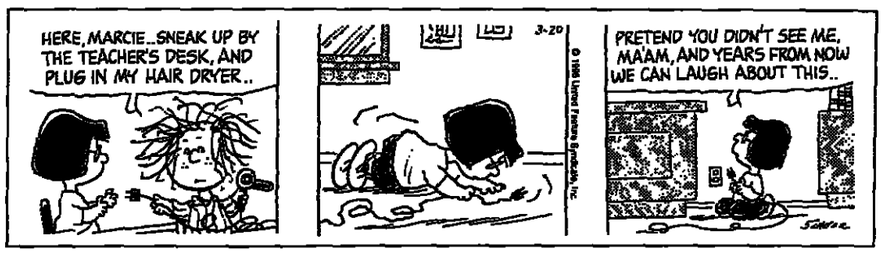
Canadiens 3, Sabres 2 Andrei Kovalenko scored two goals, but Montreal lost defensemen Vladimir Malakhov and Stephane Quintal to injury. It was Montreal's seventh consecutive home victory and left the Canadiens in fifth place in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

DOONESBURY

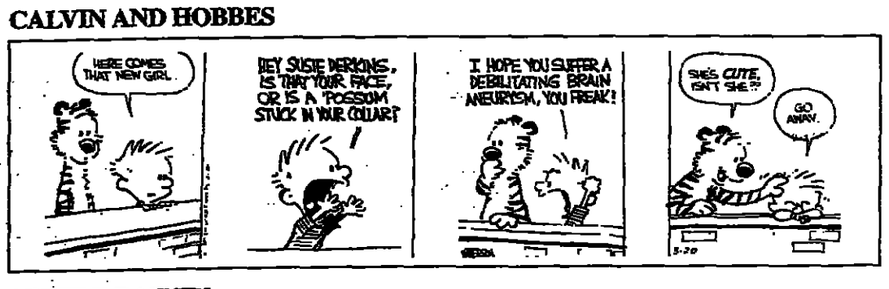
WIZARD of ID



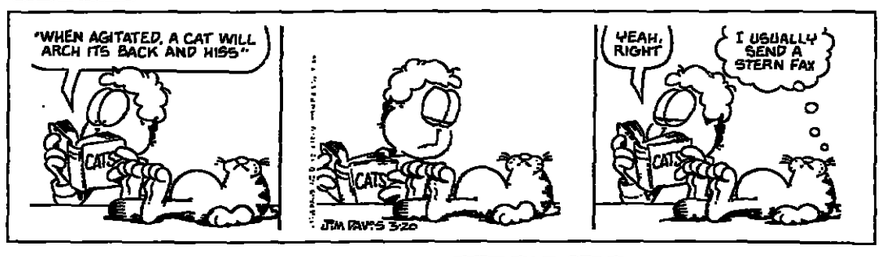
PEANUTS



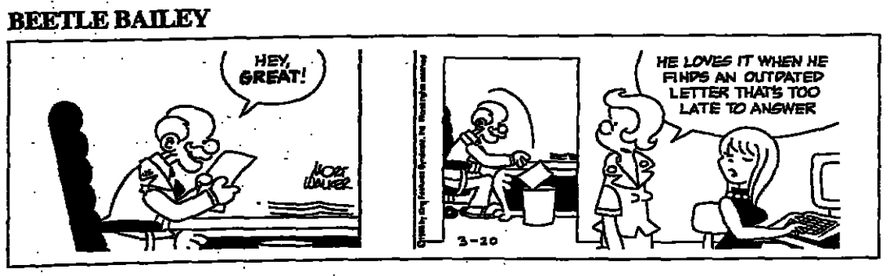
CALVIN AND HOBBES



GARFIELD

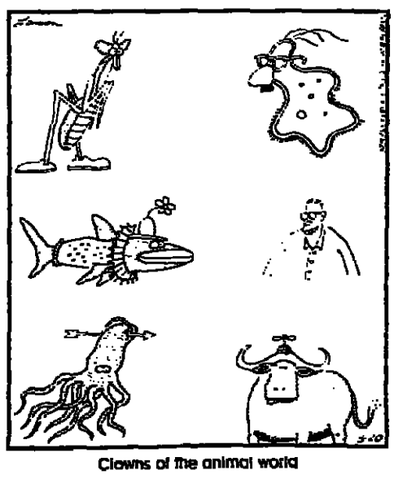


BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE

THE FAR SIDE



Clowns of the animal world

JUMBLE® THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GOUCH
DATUC
LEWLOY
RIGLYM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

Answer: AN "_____" _____ (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HEDGE FAMED GATHER WEAPON
Answer: How the blacksmith realized his ambition — HE FORGED AHEAD

OBSERVER

The Crying Skies

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — I am not a good air traveler. I cry too easily. I cried when my flight from Boston to Washington's Dulles Airport was canceled.

When I looked for a telephone to cry into and found lines 30 people long at every phone in Logan Airport, I cried some more.

What did I do when, having advanced to Position Number 24 in one of these lines and realized that every person with the stamina to reach the head of the line spent at least 10 minutes on the phone, while some spent 35? I cried.

Some nasty impulse urged me to seize the arrogant airlines by the lapels and snarl, "You can't get away with treating people like this!"

Knowing that this would do no good even if I had the courage to do it, I cried. I felt bad about being angry at my airline. I thought of the friendly captains who always welcomed me aboard so warmly and told me what our cruising altitude would be. I thought of the flight attendants who, at flight's end, never failed to wish me a nice day. How could I have wished to seize these good people by their lapels?

Because I had forgotten Dr. Pangloss, the fictional philosopher of Voltaire's "Candide." Everything is for the best in this best of all possible worlds, Dr. Pangloss taught.

At Logan Airport that snowy, frigid night those wise words came back to me as I abandoned the hopeless wait for a telephone and went hopelessly searching for the bag I had checked at the airport door five hours earlier.

The crowds around the endless belts delivering luggage made me think of Calcutta at high noon.

Realizing there might be an all-night wait for my bag, I cried. Still, wasn't it all for the best in this best of all possible worlds? You bet it was. Ninety minutes later what should I spy but my very own bag on a pile at the lost-luggage desk. I cried in gratitude.

I knew a friendly hotel that might house me overnight for less than $300. It meant a cab ride. Outside, the airport taxicab line had precisely 738 people. I cried until my tear ducts froze up.

Next morning dawned snow-free. A canceled flight means your airline has washed its hands of you. No, all flights to Washington-Dulles were booked solid today. Sorry.

□

Crying, I told my airline, "That's all right. Everything is for the best in this best of all possible worlds." Sure enough — Dr. Pangloss never fails — I could catch a USAir shuttle flight to La Guardia in New York, then fly United Airlines to Dulles.

Dear, sweet USAir. How good it was to take me out of this wretched Boston. I watched in ecstasy as my bag went down the luggage chute. No, I no longer wanted to cry. In this best of all possible worlds all truly was for the best, for we soon landed safely at La Guardia.

At La Guardia everybody else's baggage came out on the endless belt. Not mine. I cried a good bit then.

My bag has still not appeared. It was a good bag full of good clothing and sometimes I wake at 4 A.M. and cry about it. With morning's light, however, I realize that all is for the best in this best of all possible worlds, and am happy, and resigned.

New York Times Service

The Poet, the Mechanic and a Passel of Writers

By Janny Scott
New York Times Service

PRINCETON, New Jersey — If someone were to write a memoir of the literary life that has flourished in this area in recent years, one chapter might cover the curious adventure of the distinguished poet and the Volvo repairman.

The poet, Daniel Halpern, is a transplant to Princeton — along with Joyce Carol Oates, Toni Morrison, Russell Banks and others. One day, he took his car in for repairs, a volume of Czeslaw Milosz's poems in the back seat.

The mechanic, Arthur Helnke, happened to remark that he, too, was an admirer of Milosz. So the men got to talking — and ended up putting together a poetry-reading series that took place amid the lathes and drill presses in Art's Garage.

Oates read there. So did Halpern and the Irish poet, Paul Muldoon. In the audience have been the likes of Victor Brombert, the professor, critic and author of books on Victor Hugo and Balzac, Stendhal and Baudelaire. "We had some wonderful readings there," said Halpern, who is also editor in chief of the Ecco Press, which he moved recently from Manhattan to Hopewell, a small town outside Princeton. "Pretty fancy readings."

There is a saying heard around Princeton, that there's a real estate agent and a writer on every block. Writers have never been in short supply here, but these days they may be getting the upper hand.

The Princeton area has become host to a dense concentration of novelists, poets, biographers, critics, historians and others — clusters of writers that occasionally resemble a kind of literary commune.

Many of the writers, successful and internationally known, turn out regularly for each other's readings, throw parties for each other, go out for Chinese food with each other, publish each other's work.

Oates and Halpern are good friends, as are Oates and Banks, the novelist, and his wife, Chase Twichell, the poet, who is a friend of Kathryn Watterson, a journalist and author, who is a friend of Richard Preston.

Preston, whose latest book was "The Hot Zone," goes mountain biking on Sourland Mountain with his friend John McPhee, the writer, who is a close friend of Peter Benchley, best known as the author of "Jaws."

So when The New Yorker published the article by Preston that became the best-seller, "The Hot Zone," and Hollywood producers besieged the magazine, Preston turned to an indigenous Princeton source for advice. He telephoned Benchley, whom he had never met. "I said, 'I've got myself into a terrible Hollywood situation,' " Preston recalled. "His reply was, 'Is this an emergency?' I said, 'It is.' He dropped every-thing."

They met at the Alchemist & Barrister, a restaurant Benchley frequents (sometimes with John Chancellor, who retired to Princeton — to write). Hollywood is a parallel universe, Benchley suggested: keep your distance.

"Later on, he gave me two other extremely useful and valuable pieces of advice," Preston remembered recently. "Don't move into a large house. And don't be tempted to give a lot of money to Princeton University."

Watterson moved here from Manhattan with her son in 1986, knowing no one but her real estate agent. Then one day, a neighbor stopped by her mailbox and dropped off an invitation to an event at the Princeton Public Library.

The event was a reception for published authors living in the area who had books on the library's shelves, Watterson recalled. The place was packed. She cannot remember exactly how many writers showed up; was it 247 or 274?

A few years later, she and her new husband, Ron Sitts, a contractor and builder, were studying tax maps after buying a house. "Isn't this guy a writer?" Sitts asked. Banks owned the house next door.

Nicolaus Aucia/IHT

"For people who aren't writers, like Ron, people just assume you're a writer," said Watterson, who even bumps into writers at the fitness center. "At parties, you hear people say: 'You're not a writer? Oh, great!'"

Princeton University has a lot to do with why many of them are here. They came for jobs or to use the university's libraries. Some, like Preston and his wife, who is an editor, came as students, then stayed.

In recent years, many of the best-known writers have come to teach in the undergraduate creative writing program, which started in 1939, grew during the 1970s and 1980s and this year lists 18 writers on staff.

Oates joined the program in 1978, intending to stay for one year. James Richardson, the poet, came in 1980. Then came Banks, then Muldoon, then Morrison, who went on to win the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1993.

The temporary faculty members — who stay from one semester to many years — currently include among others, Breyten Breytenbach, the South African poet; Peter Carey, the Australian novelist; and Thulani Davis, the poet and playwright. "To name the people who are here is to name why one would stay," Oates said. "If they weren't here, the community would still have great attractions. But these people make it very wonderful."

Among the writing groups in Princeton is one known as U.S. 1 that has been meeting weekly for 23 years — 15 or 20 writers gathered for hours in living rooms around town, armed with 20 copies of their works in progress.

The area even has its own publishing industry. Oates and her husband, Smith, edit a journal, Ontario Review, out of their home, often publishing work by Halpern, Banks and Twichell.

Theodore Weiss, the poet, and his wife, Renee, publish a poetry magazine, Quarterly Review of Literature, out of Princeton. And at the Ecco Press, now ensconced in a white clapboard house in Hopewell not far from Art's Garage, Halpern and Carter occasionally publish books by Princeton friends.

With so many writers around, it seems surprising that Princeton doesn't crop up more often in their writing. But it is occasionally there — for example, in Twichell's latest book of poems, "The Ghost of Eden" (Ontario, 1995).

Oates, too, has used Princeton in her writing. Under her pseudonym, Rosamond Smith, she published a novel, "Nemesis," in 1990 based on a sex scandal that had shaken up the English department in the late 1980s. The year before that book, she published "American Appetites," which was set in Princeton and depicts qualities shared by many of her friends. "For my Princeton friends — nowhere in these pages," she wrote as the dedication.

Oates' work, of course, is closely read. "Everybody's both extremely hopeful and extremely scared that Joyce is going to put them in her novel," Twichell said with a smile.

POSTCARD

At Feast for King David, 13 Chefs Hold the Dairy

By Serge Schmemann
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — When his warriors proposed that David should become king of Israel, the Bible recounts, they threw a feast that lasted three days, with "meat, meal, cakes of figs, and bunches of raisins, and wine, and oil, and oxen, and sheep abundantly."

Using that as a rough guide, Zachi I. Becker, program director for Jerusalem 3000 — the yearlong festival marking roughly 3,000 years since King David made Jerusalem his capital — decided to create the feast that the king would have if he were around today.

"The program was all concerts and opera, and I thought there should be something more hedonistic," Becker said.

The equivalent of the biblical feast would probably be the finest dishes in the world, he decided, and the king probably would insist on products of his kingdom. And, of course, he would eat kosher.

Accordingly, 13 of the world's greatest chefs were in the newly equipped kitchens of the Jerusalem Convention Center Monday preparing what is probably the most elaborate kosher meal ever cooked, at least since David's three-day extravaganza.

It was a 12-course feast ranging from a truffled cream of white beans with smoked goose breast by Chef Joel Robuchon of Paris through a gelee of acacia honey with strawberries by Chef Michel Trama of Puymirol, France.

In the absence of Israeli royalty, the feast was devoured last night by 300 people who were chosen solely by their readiness to fork over $600 for the privilege, and to keep their cellular phone off for the five hours that the dinner lasted.

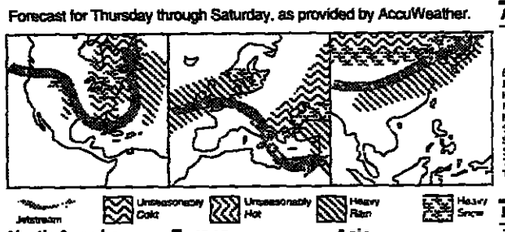
For culinary artists who view butter and cream much as most people view oxygen, the biggest challenge was to recreate their masterpieces without dairy products, which in a kosher meal cannot be mixed with meat.

So with a few hours to go before the sound of timbrels and harps would summon 300 diners to the feast, the kitchen of the convention center was a swirl of white stovepipe chef hats as the masters experimented with margarines and nondairy creams and glazes, and their armies of assistants sliced, diced, whisked and mixed.

The chefs donated their cooking, and the proceeds of the dinner are to be contributed to an open-air agricultural museum where Jewish and Arab children work together.

WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America
A large storm will bring showery rains followed by snow to the major East Coast cities and heavy snow with strong winds to Toronto, Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Cold winds will chill New Orleans, Atlanta and Orlando. Rain will dampen Vancouver, Seattle and Portland. California will be dry.

Europe
Rain will soak London later this week. Paris may have a few showers, but much of the time will be dry and mild. Warm, mainly dry, weather is likely in Madrid and Lisbon. Rome will also be mainly dry, with a slow warming trend. A few showers will cross Germany at the end of the week.

Asia
Rain will spread through Shanghai and Seoul to Tokyo while on-and-off snow falls in Beijing. Hong Kong will be warm and humid with some sunshine and a passing shower or two. High heat and humidity, typical of the season, will grip Singapore and Bangkok.

Europe

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Algarve	17/62	11/52 c	18/64	13/55 sh
Amsterdam	6/43	0/32 c	7/44	0/35 c
Ankara	7/44	1/34 pc	13/55	1/34 sh
Athens	17/62	9/48 c	17/62	9/48 c
Barcelona	18/64	9/48 c	18/64	12/53 sh
Belgrade	14/57	3/37 c	13/55	3/37 c
Berlin	6/43	1/34 c	6/43	2/35 c
Brussels	6/43	2/35 c	8/46	3/37 c
Budapest	7/44	3/35 c	6/43	2/35 c
Copenhagen	6/43	1/34 pc	2/35	-4/25 pc
Costa Del Sol	18/64	12/53 c	19/66	13/55 sh
Dublin	9/48	3/37 c	9/48	3/37 sh
Edinburgh	8/46	4/39 pc	7/44	3/37 c
Florence	14/57	5/41 sh	16/59	6/43 c
Frankfurt	6/43	1/34 c	8/46	1/34 c
Geneva	8/46	3/37 sh	10/50	4/39 sh
Helsinki	2/35	-4/25 pc	2/35	-4/25 pc
Istanbul	4/39	0/32 c	13/55	6/43 c
Las Palmas	23/73	15/59 s	21/70	16/61 pc
Lisbon	18/64	11/52 c	18/64	12/53 sh
London	10/50	3/37 pc	9/48	5/41 sh
Madrid	17/62	4/39 sh	20/68	8/46 sh
Milan	12/53	4/39 sh	12/53	6/43 c
Moscow	3/37	-4/25 pc	2/35	-4/25 pc
Munich	8/46	1/34 sh	9/48	3/37 sh
Nice	13/55	7/44 sh	14/57	8/46 sh
Oslo	-2/29	-5/24 pc	3/35	-5/24 pc
Mallorca	14/57	11/52 c	17/62	13/55 sh
Paris	11/52	4/39 pc	11/52	6/43 sh
Prague	4/39	1/34 pc	6/43	1/34 pc
Reykjavik	4/39	-4/25 s	6/43	1/34 s
Rome	10/50	5/41 sh	16/61	7/44 c
St. Petersburg	3/37	-4/25 pc	3/37	-4/25 pc
Stockholm	5/41	-1/31 pc	2/35	-4/25 pc
Strasbourg	7/44	1/34 sh	9/48	4/39 c
Tallinn	3/37	-3/27 pc	3/37	-3/27 pc
Venice	12/53	6/43 sh	13/55	7/44 c
Vienna	7/44	3/37 pc	7/44	3/37 c
Warsaw	-1/31	-4/25 s	4/39	-2/29 pc
Zurich	10/50	3/37 sh	11/52	4/39 sh

Oceania

Auckland	23/73	14/57 c	23/73	16/61 pc
Sydney	24/75	16/61 s	24/75	16/61 pc

Asia

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Bangkok	35/95	25/77 pc	34/93	26/79 pc
Beijing	11/52	2/35 pc	13/55	3/37 r
Hong Kong	21/70	18/64 s	22/71	18/64 s
Manila	32/89	25/77 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
New Delhi	30/86	18/64 pc	32/89	18/64 pc
Seoul	7/44	-3/27 s	12/53	4/39 s
Shanghai	11/52	3/46 r	14/57	11/52 r
Singapore	30/86	25/77 pc	31/88	25/77 pc
Taipei	25/77	18/64 sh	24/75	18/64 c
Tokyo	13/55	2/35 pc	13/55	4/39 s

Latin America

Buenos Aires	31/88	19/64 pc	31/88	21/70 pc
Caracas	28/82	19/66 pc	29/84	19/66 pc
Lima	25/77	21/70 pc	26/79	21/70 pc
Mexico City	24/75	9/48 pc	23/73	6/43 pc
Rio de Janeiro	29/84	23/73 pc	29/84	24/75 pc
Santiago	28/82	13/55 s	29/84	13/55 pc

North America

Anchorage	3/37	-1/47 s	4/39	-4/25 pc
Atlanta	9/48	3/37 pc	8/46	2/35 pc
Boston	7/44	-3/27 r	7/44	3/37 r
Chicago	2/35	-5/22 sn	2/35	-3/29 c
Denver	9/48	-4/25 s	18/64	-2/35 s
Detroit	4/39	1/32 r	2/35	-3/27 sn
Honolulu	25/79	19/64 c	28/82	19/66 pc
Houston	17/63	3/37 pc	20/68	4/39 s
Los Angeles	21/70	11/52 s	24/75	12/53 pc
Miami	27/80	14/57 pc	28/71	14/57 pc
Minneapolis	1/34	-4/25 c	3/37	0/32 pc
Montreal	3/37	-7/20 pc	0/32	-8/18 sn
Nassau	31/88	23/73 pc	27/80	19/66 pc
New York	9/48	4/39 sn	9/48	2/35 r
Phoenix	29/84	14/57 s	30/86	14/57 s
San Fran.	23/73	10/50 s	20/68	8/46 pc
Seattle	13/55	4/39 pc	13/55	4/39 r
Toronto	4/39	-1/31 sh	1/34	-3/29 sn
Vancouver	9/48	4/39 pc	13/55	4/39 r
Washington	14/57	6/43 sh	9/48	1/34 r

Middle East

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Abu Dhabi	35/79	21/70 pc	29/84	20/68 s
Beirut	18/64	13/55 pc	16/61	12/53 sh
Cairo	17/62	13/55 r	16/61	7/44 c
Damascus	17/62	9/48 pc	11/52	4/39 c
Jerusalem	16/61	9/48 pc	13/55	8/46 c
Luxor	27/80	18/64 pc	31/88	7/44 s
Riyadh	28/82	16/61 pc	32/89	19/64 c

Africa

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Algiers	18/64	11/52 pc	19/66	13/55 s
Cape Town	24/75	14/57 s	25/77	15/59 c
Casablanca	18/64	9/48 c	22/71	12/53 s
Harare	20/68	11/52 pc	25/77	11/52 s
Lagos	31/88	25/77 pc	32/89	26/79 pc
Nairobi	22/71	13/55 r	23/73	14/57 r
Tunis	16/61	7/44 c	19/64	10/50 pc

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Hce, W-Weather All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

PEOPLE

THE last of the charges against the rapper **Snoop Doggy Dogg** and his bodyguard have been dropped. A jury in February acquitted the rapper, whose real name is **Calvin Broadus**, and bodyguard **McKinley Lee** of murder in the August 1993 shooting death of a street gang member, **Philip Waldemarian**, but the jurors were deadlocked on manslaughter charges. Prosecutors have told the judge that they did not wish to retry the two men for manslaughter.

□

WABC-AM in New York dropped **Alan M. Dershowitz**, the Harvard Law School professor and celebrity lawyer, from its roster of talk-show hosts after he called the radio station's controversial host **Bob Grant** a racist. Dershowitz made the remarks during a discussion of racism with a caller who took him to task for having appeared in the past on Grant's show. **Phil Boyce**, the program director, defended Grant, his station's most popular host. "What he is saying about Bob is wrong," Boyce said, "so I'm not going to tolerate that." Dershowitz's show is broadcast on 50 other stations.

□

"Woman Bathing," a painting by **Auguste Renoir**, has been recovered four days after it was stolen from the National Museum in Belgrade. The police said the 1915 painting by the French Impressionist was damaged when thieves cut it out of its frame and rolled the brittle canvas tightly. Three men were arrested and a fourth is being sought.

□

The American jazz musician **Bob Brookmeyer** is quitting as conductor of the Danish Radio Big Band, considered one of the world's best. Brookmeyer gave no reason for breaking his four-year contract, which was to expire in late 1999.

□

The French actress **Isabelle Huppert** is to make her debut on the London stage Thursday at the Royal National Theatre with the leading role in "Mary Stuart" by **Friedrich Schiller**.

□

Once again, **Kirk Douglas**'s youngest son, **Eric**, has been charged with disrupting an airline flight, this time for allegedly refusing to put his 20-pound dog in its case. The complaint against him said Douglas also verbally abused the crew and rolled up blankets and threw them at attendants. He pleaded not guilty and was released on $10,000 bail. The judge ordered Douglas, an actor and comedian, to undergo psychological, alcohol and drug testing. In November, a federal judge in Los Angeles threw out charges that Douglas disrupted another flight, physically harassed an attendant and insisted that his dog sit in his lap.

□

The models **Claudia Schiffer**, **Naomi Campbell** and **Karen Mulder** will soon appear as dolls in toy shops around the world. The dolls will be made by American toymaker Hasbro. For each doll sold, a donation will be made to the International Red Cross, the models said.

□

The log cabin where **Muddy Waters** lived before he became a star is going on tour, thanks to the efforts of blues aficionados led by House of Blues founder **Isaac Tigrett**. Waters, whose original name was **McKinley Morganfield**, was raised in the tiny dwelling on the Stovall plantation near Clarksdale, Mississippi. Tigrett reached an agreement with the Stovall family to rebuild it and truck it to blues festivals across the United States and Europe. Waters died in 1983 at age 68.

□

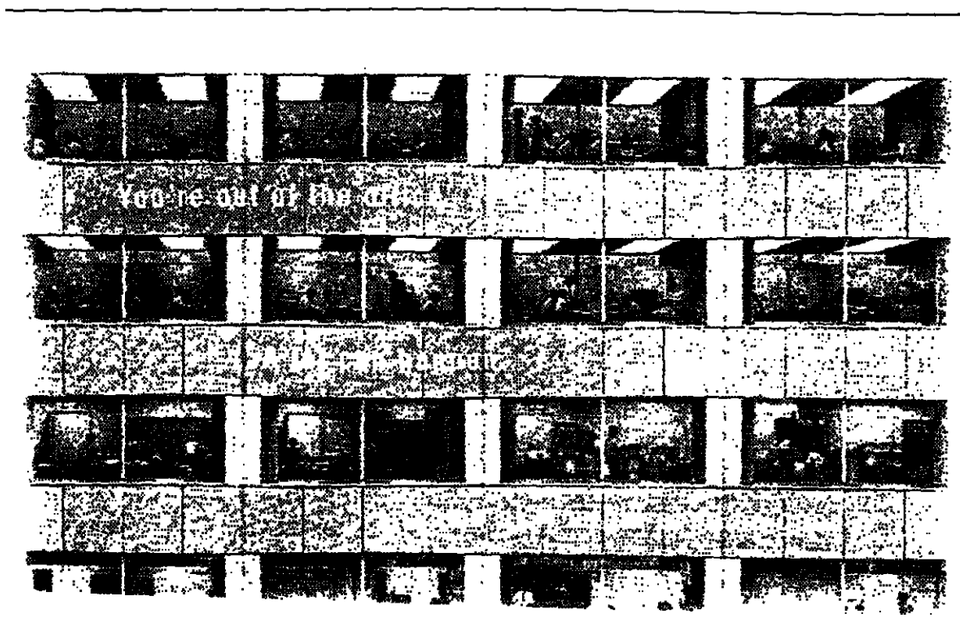
Lisa Marie Presley has built a recording studio in her Los Angeles home, and is writing songs, two months after filing for divorce from **Michael Jackson**. Earlier musical ventures proved unsatisfying, so Presley says she is taking it slow this time. In Vogue magazine, she describes her style-in-progress as a cross between **Tracy Chapman** and **Alanis Morissette**. "I'm obviously not doing it for money or fame," Presley said.

□

One hand in a bandage still left **Paul Newman** with another hand to lend to the needy. Newman joined about 20 Habitat for Humanity volunteers on a house-building project in a rundown neighborhood of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Newman, who broke a bone in his left hand in a car accident last month, conceded, "I'm kind of limited in what I can do."

Agence France-Presse

TWO GALINAS — The Russian soprano Galina Vishnevskaya, right, with the American soprano Gwynne Geyer, who sings the lead role in "Galina" by Marcel Landowski, at the opera's world premiere in Lyon.



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Denmark	8001-0010
Finland*	9800-100-10
France	19-0011
Germany	0130-0010
Greece*	00-800-1311
Hungary*	0800-01111
Iceland*	800 9001
Ireland	1-800-550-000
Italy*	172-1011
Lithuania◆	80196
Luxembourg	0-800-0111
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Norway	800-190-11
Poland†*	00-0-800-111-1111
Portugal†	05017-1-288
Romania*	01-800-4288
Russia*†(Moscow)	155-5042
Slovak Rep.*†	00-42-000-101
Spain*	900-99-00-11
Sweden	020-795-611
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Ukraine†	80100-11
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	0500-89-0011

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Cyprus* ■	800-90618
Egypt* (Cairo)†	510-0200
Israel	177-100-2727
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Lebanon (Beirut)*†† ■	426-801
Qatar ■	0800-011-77
Saudi Arabia ■	1-800-10
Syria	0-801
U. Arab Emirates* ■	800-121

AFRICA

Gabon*	800-001
Gambia*	00111
Ghana	0191
Ivory Coast*	00-111-11
Kenya†	0800-10
Liberia	797-797
Morocco ■	002-11-0011
Sierra Leone	1100
South Africa	0-800-99-0123
Zambia◆	00-899
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